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Legislature of Ontario

Debates Ontario. Legislative Assembly

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Standing Resources
Development Committee *SJ*
Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Monday, May 13, 1974
Afternoon Session

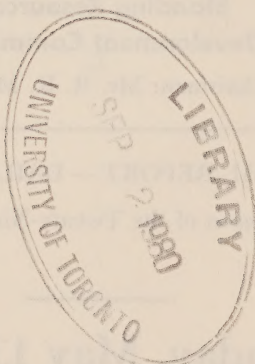
Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 13, 1974

The committee met at 3:20 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

(continued)

On vote 2202:

Mr. Chairman: We were on item 7—land, water and mineral title administration. Is there any further discussion on this vote?

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): Carried.

Mr. Chairman: Ray, did you have something?

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Yes, I want to know in the minister's speech back in 1972 dealing with a report on the—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm glad the member looks back and researches these speeches.

Mr. Haggerty: —use of Crown lands by transient campers, what became of that task force you appointed?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I may comment on that, Mr. Chairman, the task force did report. We have come up with a proposal. The original proposal was rather large in extent. It appeared it was going to be rather costly. I felt very strongly that we had to have some control over camping on Crown lands and suggested that we have an experimental area. The area that I've selected is an area in which my own riding is situated—that area from Ignace to the Manitoba border and from Fort Frances to the Manitoba border, in that particular area. We would have that entire area that can be controlled by Highway 11, Highway 17—the TransCanada Highway—and Highway 71 up from Fort Frances to Kenora.

Mr. J. F. Foulds (Port Arthur): Excuse me, is the area west of that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, from Ignace to the Manitoba border.

Mr. Foulds: I see.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Our proposal was given to the newly established regional directors' advisory committee, of which Mr. Sanders of Sioux Lookout is the chairman, and on which sit two members of this committee here, Mr. Reid and Mr. Stokes. They have gone over it in detail. It is to be applied in four separate stages. The cost will be approximately \$225,000 for this year, which will give us sufficient funds to develop certain areas.

The emphasis of the plan itself is to give broad publicity to the control of camping on Crown lands, denying the right of anyone to camp within half a mile of major accesses, being these particular highways and these roads. We'll give this broad publicity; there will be proper pamphlets given out. Those individuals with recreational vehicle units will be asked to go to specific areas where there are proper garbage facilities—

Mr. Haggerty: Sanitation?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sanitation facilities will be established in a rather primitive state. They will not be developed to anything comparable to our provincial parks. We will have very simple-type clearings. It will lend a wilderness aspect to the site itself, but at least we will have contained the problem into specific areas and we will direct where these will be.

Last year alone in this particular area we spent something like \$150,000 on garbage cleanup, and the eventual goal and the recommendations of the committee are that we put a licence fee on the non-residents using these particular areas and the Crown lands. That decision has not been reached as yet.

Mr. Haggerty: You mean non-residents of Canada.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Non-residents, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: You are talking about foreign.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, right. Not Canadians.

Mr. Haggerty: The United States or that? Or from southern Ontario either?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Non-residents would mean—

Mr. Foulds: Not from southern Ontario? We can identify them from the licence plates, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I realize that. But we are thinking of non-residents; those will be people from other countries.

Mr. Haggerty: But there will be enough sign posts or indications—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: —to indicate where these are, then you won't have a trailer stop every mile or half mile along the highway.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Every gravel pit will not have two or three trailers in it any more. We hope to stop the use of these sideroads and turnoffs as a place for the recreational vehicle to stop because it is creating a problem. We do have to clean up. We think we should give proper identification and proper information to the travelling public as to where they can go. Now they have a choice: They can go to these specific areas that will be under the Crown land camping control programme, they can go—

Mr. Haggerty: Or park.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —to a provincial park, or they can go to a private area. But we do have to take steps to control camping on Crown lands.

This is the first step. It is a one-year experiment. Where we go from here I just don't know because we want to see the reactions.

Mr. Haggerty: I think there is another report that has come out from the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, and it has indicated that for trailers and boats, popularity had increased 45 per cent in 1972 or 1973. Perhaps it will increase this year too. This may cause more of a problem than perhaps you are ready to handle at the time.

Have you given any consideration to placing disposal containers along highways, in your parks or where you drive off beside a highway and say the turnoff is for a picnic area? Have you given any consideration to the type of disposal unit that the Ministry of Transportation and Communications could pick up? They will place one container here and then go five or six miles and place another one and they can pick them up throughout the week.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we have. We have garbage receptacles in our provincial parks and in our roadside parks. The roadside parks are maintained by the Ministry of Transportation and Communications as they are just a turnoff—a stopping place for lunch or something.

Mr. Haggerty: These are about 45-gal. drums.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: I imagine they get loaded pretty heavily—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, they are.

Mr. Haggerty: —to be lifted up on the truck. I think if they had an automatic pickup on them—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. What you are thinking about is something like the programme that the Province of Manitoba has instituted. It is their Orbit programme and they have—

Mr. Haggerty: I am not familiar with Manitoba, but I am thinking of an area, Sherkston Beaches, where a contractor is hired to come in. This is what he has throughout his camping grounds. Of course, you know there are maybe about 15,000 to 20,000 persons there through a week using a number of these containers. They dispose of their garbage in these containers, and then the containers are picked up by a truck. When the contractor picks one up he will place an empty one there and then take the loaded one away.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is unfortunate that in northern Ontario we don't have that kind of garbage pickup service.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you had any dialogue at all with the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Rhodes)?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we have.

Mr. Haggerty: And suggested along this line that it could be worked this way?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We've embarked on a programme of development of landfill sites for garbage in northern Ontario, where they are properly marked and properly controlled, and where the campers and the people who have summer cottages have an opportunity to place their garbage. The sites are at strategic points right across—

Mr. Haggerty: I have seen them in that area there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. The regular landfill site. But I want to comment on the Minister of Highways' remarks made in the Manitoba Legislature this last week where they are having extreme difficulty with their Orbit programme. They have several of these Orbit garbage container facilities—

Mr. Haggerty: The ones that sit alongside the road and you drive up and throw in and then take off again.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. They are thinking of reviewing that particular programme because it is creating problems. The cottagers and the travelling public bring everything there but the kitchen sink. In fact they indicated at one time that there were a couple of old mattresses dropped off there.

That "satellite" garbage programme was not designed for that type of thing. It is not a garbage collection agency. It is to pick up the gum wrappers and the pop bottles that you have in your car when you are travelling along the highways. But it has gone out of all proportion and it has become just impossible to control. So they are thinking of completely reviewing their programme.

I personally brought it to the attention of the Minister of Transportation and Communications in Ontario on a number of occasions. They have some reservation as to the placing of these receptacles on the highway itself. This may be something you wanted to bring up before his estimates. But they do have a number of 45-gal. barrels that are off the highway in these roadside parks.

Mr. Haggerty: I've seen those men who have to handle those and sometimes they are loaded pretty heavily. You are talking of maybe 150 lb and they have to lift it up about 5 ft on the platform of the truck. You know, that is pretty heavy slugging and I was just wondering perhaps if we couldn't get into some form of automation where you can put in a hydraulic lift on the back for these containers.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I have to say to you that we in the Ministry of Natural Resources are very concerned with maintaining the Crown lands of this province, which belong to the people of this province, in a clean and acceptable state. I hope that this experiment that we are having in northwest Ontario will prove beneficial. It will give us some indications as to where we should be going. I might say that there is no other jurisdiction in the province—in Canada—that has a problem similar to what we have in northern Ontario, because in northern Ontario so much of the land is

Crown owned. In southern Ontario we don't have a problem because—

Mr. Haggerty: Because it's there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —it's all privately owned, really.

Mr. Haggerty: There will be a charge for this, then, will there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There will be no charge this year.

Mr. Haggerty: Why not? I mean, if it's going to cost money to maintain it, why shouldn't those persons who use it, pay for it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think the eventual goal is to make a charge, but I don't think—thinking of all the administration problems that we've encountered—that we could implement a charge system this late in the programme. And we want to get on with the programme as an experiment.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, the licences are very small, are they not, on a trailer? Maybe by increasing the licence, you could get a slice of that from MTC and it would cover the cost of waste disposal.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We don't license these foreign-owned trailers. This is the problem. It would be all right if all we were dealing with were trailers that were licensed in the Province of Ontario through the Highway Traffic Act. The committee has recommended, and we have not made a decision on this aspect of it, that when these foreign-owned recreational vehicles do come into the Province of Ontario, and if they indicate that they want to use Crown lands, then there should be a seasonal fee assessed to them. This is something we will make a decision on after this year's experiment.

Mr. Haggerty: Maybe there should be a tax right at the border—say at a border entrance anywhere in Ontario. There should be a special tax on campers coming in there. If it's going to cost the Ontario taxpayers—no doubt it is costing them money—to clean up after they leave, maybe it's worthwhile to look into it to see if you couldn't put a special tax on them. Maybe they are not responsible for all of it, but part of it I imagine they are. If it's a special permit, even \$2 or \$3, to come over here, it could go into your kitty and could be used for a cleanup programme and perhaps hiring more environmental men and creating more jobs.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll be monitoring this programme in northwest Ontario very care-

fully to get all the reactions of all those campers using Crown lands this year. This will be the most extensive search and survey that's ever been conducted.

Mr. Haggerty: If persons have got a camper they can load up with a couple of hundred pounds of food and everything else, and it's going to be disposed of someplace.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I can't agree with you more.

Mr. Haggerty: I would suggest that you take that into consideration.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I can assure you we have. We've been looking at it for two years and we've done a tremendous amount of research. We've had task forces within our own ministry. We've asked the public for an input. In fact, when I first made the announcement to the Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce about two years ago, I received something like 6,000 letters from individuals across northern Ontario giving me advice.

Mr. Haggerty: Every person who uses a motel room or a hotel room here pays a room tax.

Mr. L. Maecck (Parry Sound): You should have brought your filing cabinet up, Jack.

Mr. Foulds: I would like to go into this in a little bit more detail.

Mr. Chairman: Go ahead.

Mr. Foulds: The committee has obviously selected some sites for this coming year. What are some of the considerations that you took into account in selecting those sites? For example, are they like an expanded access point in a mini park, so that you're back far enough from the water, you've got enough sand beach and you're not back into swamp just 10 ft back from the lake? Are those considerations that you've taken into account?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. All those considerations have been taken into account. In fact, we want to maintain the wilderness aspect—

Mr. Foulds: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —more so than in a provincial park. In other words, we are not going to line up the trailers one, two, three.

Mr. Foulds: Sure.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are going to be very crude and very primitive, but they will

be confined to a specific area. Many of them, I have to admit, are already established. The recreational vehicle unit, and those operators, have a tremendous ability of searching out these—

Mr. Foulds: They have their network, too.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They have their network. They know where to go; they have really established themselves and they know the various places to go. But we wanted to consolidate them in specific areas so that if we have to clean up, we can clean up in these specific areas only.

Mr. Foulds: If you could elaborate a bit more about the waste disposal which I think is probably the most crucial thing to someone who lives in the north. If you go through there, you see a whole bunch of garbage lying around; it is shocking.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: As I pointed out, we have embarked on a very aggressive programme, the development of landfill sites for summer cottage subdivisions.

Mr. Foulds: I understand that but what do you have around the proposed sites of your Crown lands camping control programme?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Part of the programme is garbage pickup.

Mr. Foulds: I see.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That will be part of the programme.

Mr. Foulds: Will they do that once every week or—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: More than that; twice a week if need be.

Mr. Foulds: I see. I suppose you are monitoring the programme this year to see what type of vehicle, who is using it and so on? How is that monitoring taking place?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That will be done by a group within the ministry which will be attached to the overall programme; to do personal interviews; to present questionnaires to the individual campers to get their reactions to the programme; to get reaction from the general public at large and, of course, to monitor the programme as it is working.

Mr. Foulds: I suppose you have taken into account there may be some conflicts of usage if you have one of these sites, say, near a cottage development and park development?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We hope to put these, as I said earlier, in an area recognized as being a wilderness area, removed from the provincial park and the private entrepreneur. I don't think we want to set up an area in competition with them. We think that should be the area the recreational vehicles should go to anyway in the first place.

It may well be that eventually we will come down to the idea of saying, "At least foreign-licensed recreational vehicles should go only to provincial parks or the private camp development." I don't propose we should develop all our Crown lands in northern Ontario as a mass of provincial parks—not at all—but I still think we cannot deny the right of the individual to use those lands to gain a wilderness experience and a recreational opportunity.

Mr. Foulds: And you do run into a very real problem in terms of someone getting caught in between, because the distances are so great?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right.

Mr. Foulds: I have travelled those highways and you have, too.

Mr. Haggerty: What about campers? When you have them flying in by aircraft they can do as they darn well please.

Mr. Foulds: I have just one specific question. Do you have the number of specific areas handy? If you don't have it here, could you—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask Mr. McGinn to answer that specific question; he was working very closely on the design of that programme. Mr. McGinn?

Mr. J. McGinn (Director, Lands Administration Branch): Mr. Chairman, I am just trying to think of the number. I think it is 231 we have. Does that ring a bell, Mr. Eckel?

Mr. L. H. Eckel (Executive Director, Division of Lands): It doesn't.

Mr. McGinn: I think it's 231. I can re-check it, Mr. Foulds, and let you know a little later. We have it on a big map and so on. If you would care to see that map, we would be glad to show it to you; it shows the location of all the proposed sites we are going to have in this experimental area. I think I might say that these sites which have been chosen have access from the road; you have to go by wheeled vehicles. I can show it to you; I don't have the number right now.

Mr. Foulds: Fine, I would appreciate that. Perhaps when we do check that, we can check also the number—the loading on the sites. I assume you would allow maybe two vehicles on some sites, maybe five on some and maybe only one on others?

Mr. McGinn: Mr. Chairman, the criterion used was five to 10 places in each site.

Mr. Foulds: I see. Thank you very much.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Just following on that, if I may, Mr. Chairman, I would like to compliment the minister on the initiative he has taken to set up this pilot project. I know it would have been much easier for him to say, "All right, let's have a pilot project but let's have it somewhere else, a long way away from home".

The minister, earlier in these estimates, did allude to a meeting which has already been held by the advisory committee on strategic land use planning. That was a committee convened in Kenora a couple of months ago for the express purpose of setting up this pilot project. The hon. member for Rainy River (Mr. Reid) was there and I was there. We are both members of the committee. There was a fairly good cross-section of other people who are represented on the committee. There was a feeling of goodwill expressed at the meeting by all groups concerned, including native people.

I think it is appropriate for me at this time to remind members of the committee that the minister did choose his own area to set up this pilot project. He won't be without criticism. He is going to be criticized if he does and he is going to be criticized if he doesn't. I would just like publicly to thank the minister for taking the initiative and for having the courage to set it up in his own area. I want to assure him on my own behalf that I will do everything to see that it works.

I hope that it will have the kind of success that we hope it will, so that we will have some more order than we have at the present time with regard to the indiscriminate use of Crown land and, as a result of it, the environment will be much better than it is now. I think that it will be possible for many people to get out and enjoy areas if they know what the ground rules are and respect the environment. I think that the minister is on the right track. It is a sincere effort to come to grips with unauthorized use of Crown land. Frankly, I think it will work and I want to say that I will do everything in my power to co-operate and see that it does.

That is the only thing I had on that specific item. Do you have any other speakers?

Mr. Haggerty: I want to follow up one point I raised with the minister about campers coming in or being flown in by aircraft. Are there any permits issued to them for the use of the Crown lands at all or do they get in scot free too?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Under the programme for the development of outpost camps, the person taking that particular party into a specific area must come from a registered licensed tourist camp establishment, licensed under the Ministry of Industry and Tourism. He must have a licence in Ontario and must be operating a fully fledged tourist camp. Then that tourist camp operator has the right to obtain permission for what we call outpost camps. We issue land-use permits. They are a very simple type of development. I believe the requirement is that the building is constructed so that one man can dismantle it within an eight-hour period.

Mr. Haggerty: Is there a fee schedule for this at all?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, there is a fee schedule.

Mr. Stokes: Is it a land-use permit?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The permit fee is \$25 a year.

Mr. Haggerty: I can remember sitting here for a couple of years on this committee. I don't know which member it was, but he mentioned about American outfitters who would bring in campers from the other side to up around Fort Frances and Rainy River. They brought them into some place in Ontario. Perhaps there is no charge at all for their use of the Crown lands.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, you are referring to a problem we have.

Mr. Haggerty: Has that been corrected?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we have made terrific strides to correct this situation. You are referring to a situation which occurs along the American-Canadian border from Fort Frances to Thunder Bay where operators, licensed in Minnesota, actually fly in unrecognized, unaccounted for and without permission. They land on these unknown lakes. There are actually thousands of them in northwest Ontario where they go unspotted. They spend a day there and they charge their guests accordingly.

We have a regular conservation officer who is on constant patrol in that area. We went a step further last year and provided extra funds for another conservation officer to use unchartered and unmarked aircraft to go into that particular area and the results were just tremendous.

In addition to this, we put in three check points at Fort Frances at the air services that operate in Canada where many of the aircraft were landing, and we are checking these points too. I made a personal appeal to the Solicitor General of Canada, the minister in charge of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, to station a member of that force, along with an aircraft at Dryden, because they have one aircraft now that maintains patrol over the Canadian-American border from Winnipeg to Wawa. I felt that if we had the presence of an RCMP officer and an aircraft at Dryden—

Mr. Haggerty: You mean there are no customs officers up there at all?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, yes, there are customs officers at the entry points. But this is for surveillance at the border, itself. We have one aircraft to cover that huge area. I appealed to him to place another officer and an aircraft at Dryden, and I was turned down.

I am not going to let up on my efforts. I am firmly convinced that we should have that kind of support from the federal government because once the aircraft is a foot off the water we have no more control. We have got to catch them when they are on the water; when they are in our jurisdiction.

Once they are in the air, they are considered to be the responsibility of the federal authorities. This is one of our problems. But we are working on it and I am pleased to say that we have made some tremendous advances.

I might say publicly, too, that I have approached members of the press and have asked them to give front-page coverage when there is a judgement applied to these people who have these infractions. They have done this. I can say that in many instances when you read the front pages of our newspapers in northwestern Ontario about certain people being apprehended, and the fines that were allocated to them it becomes a deterrent to other people who are using this type of means of getting at our resources.

Mr. Haggerty: Well then, you are correcting the situation.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are working on it. I am not satisfied that we've got the situation totally in hand. I would like more support from the federal government. But, as I said earlier, I think we have gone a long way to control the situation and we are going to continue our efforts.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you want to continue on the same subject, Jack?

Mr. Stokes: No.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): I'd like to get on the same subject, if I could. It's something along the same line. I had a long talk with one of the tourist camp outfitters in my area about Americans, in particular, coming in and just holing up at a motel or something like this, and then going into the area that he has developed and setting up places to shoot bear, moose, wolf, or whatever it is that they are after.

He says they will then move into areas and try to take over the hunting places that he has set up, and he complains about having to pay the licences, and this kind of thing.

Mr. Stokes: He takes his chances.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, that's right; that's very true.

Mr. Stokes: That's Crown land.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It really is.

Mr. Ferrier: Is this sort of a Scout's honour type of thing that—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, sure.

Mr. Ferrier: —a man should observe if a fellow spent a lot of money in there to develop these things? If it's on Crown land you shouldn't sort of move in or try to take advantage of it, but leave it for the man's guests and—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I might say if I may interrupt here, there are good hunting practices and if a hunter is moving into an area, he wouldn't want to sit on the doorstep of another hunter, really. We can't move in to control the Crown lands to the extent that we say, "Look, this is your private hunting preserve, you know."

Mr. Stokes: This is my duck blind, that is yours.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. We could never do that, really.

Mr. Ferrier: No.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is a certain amount of courtesy and control that the hunter should exercise himself. I am surprised that this happens really, because I know the situation as it is in northwestern Ontario, when hunters are out hunting moose.

If there is a hunter in that particular bay or in that particular area, they'll move on to the next area. You know, they won't just say, "Look, this is my area, I have been coming here for five years; you've got to get out of here."

Nobody has a right to say that. I can assure you we are not going to get into the allocation of those areas to specific people. That would be an administrative problem beyond my wildest dreams, really.

Mr. Ferrier: But if a fellow comes in from another country and sort of leads a hunting party, what requirements does he have to live up to on Crown lands? Does he have to pay any licence or is he free just to go on to that area and hunt?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, if he has a licence, of course, and he gets a licence to carry a gun and he gets the proper licences to hunt the species that he is interested in hunting, he is free to go anywhere he wants on Crown land. There are no restrictions.

Mr. Ferrier: There is no provision that he has to have a native guide or anything like that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, no. We tried that. We had that enforced several years ago. There were several problems, because the work was so seasonal that a lot of people coming into Ontario were unable, at the peak hunting periods, to find a licensed guide.

Mr. Ferrier: They would be left sitting out their—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They would be left sitting, as the seasons are just a matter of weeks, and by the time they got a guide or were able to pick up a guide—

Mr. Ferrier: The season was over.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —the season was over. So it became very difficult. We encourage the non-residents to go to a registered tourist outfitter. If they want to enjoy the best of hunting in the Province of Ontario that is the place to go.

Mr. Ferrier: But there is no obligation.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is no obligation.

Mr. Ferrier: And to bring in those kind of strict regulations would be—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I suspect the day will come when we have those regulations, as we move ahead and as we manage our resources on a much more stringent basis and we implement more controls. In the last year alone, the number of hunters went from something like 73,000 to close to 96,000. That kind of an increase, I think, will force us to move into tighter controls. At this point in time we don't think that they are necessary.

Mr. Ferrier: To regularize it then, if the hunting pressures are growing that much—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would like to get into that maybe in the next vote, because I have some comments to make.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, I only brought it up because you had got into the use of Crown land and I thought maybe I was going to be cut off and couldn't bring it up later. But I will leave it until we get to the next vote.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Okay. That could be an interesting discussion.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): Insofar as the land-use permits are concerned, there are some areas where these aren't allowed and they have been cut off in the last few years. That is an expanding area, and perhaps that is a good thing. But, the people who live in these areas or who want to set up a hunting camp for a week or so can't get a land-use permit. But the tourist outfitter can go in and set up an outpost camp if he has the proper licence, a land-use permit.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: They are issued in these areas where other people are turned down. There are townships where outpost camps are given land-use permits, whereas individuals can't get them. The question arises as to whether they are recognized as tourist outfitters or not. Your department accepts the decision of the Ministry of Industry and Tourism as to whether they are outfitters. Some guy sits in an office and makes a decision on whether this fellow is an outfitter or not. He goes to you and he is given a land-use permit to operate an outpost camp. In some instances it has been the practice to allow people to set up outpost camps who aren't outfitters at all, really, even though the

other ministry may recognize them as outfitters.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But he would be licensed.

Mr. R. S. Smith: For example, I have a fellow in my area who runs a little shop on the main street. He sells all kinds of magazines, pornographic literature and all kinds of stuff.

Mr. Ferrier: Never in northern Ontario!

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Is he a friend of yours?

Mr. Chairman: What's his name?

Mr. Stokes: The chairman wants to know where his place of business is.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I have just been there to look around. I am sure the minister might have visited—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I have not.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But anyway, this guy has also got himself recognized as a tourist outfitter. I find that pretty hard—

Mr. Stokes: Maybe recreation but not tourism.

Mr. R. S. Smith: That is quite a stretch of the imagination, to recognize this place that he operates as a tourist outfitter. I don't know what the tourists are looking for but anyway that is what happens. Because he is recognized as a tourist outfitter by Industry and Tourism he applies to you people and is given a land-use permit to run outpost camps in townships north of Eldee and Thorne which are closed off to the individual.

I have some difficulty understanding this whole situation. First, how this fellow can be recognized as a tourist operator, and secondly, how he can get a land-use permit in those townships that are closed off to other individuals. I know they are closed off to other individuals because other individuals who have been in there with camps longer than he has, have now been told to remove their camps. They are very upset.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Specifics, yes. Well, if I—

Mr. Stokes: Does he run blue movies at his outpost camps?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Maybe he does. I don't know. I haven't visited the camps.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I would first have to say that if he were properly licensed

by another ministry as a tourist operator and he's recognized as a bona fide tourist operator by them, then we have no choice but to issue a land-use permit for an outpost.

Mr. R. S. Smith: You don't check to see whether he really is a bona fide tourist operator?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, we accept—

Mr. R. S. Smith: You just take it for granted that the other ministry has?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is their responsibility. I can't be looking over the shoulders of another ministry, really. If he has a proper tourist operator's licence, and he comes and he indicates this to us, then we have the obligation of issuing him a land-use permit for outpost camps.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, but I bring to the attention of your department that his tourist outfitter's licence, as far as I am concerned, anyway, is not bona fide. And they still give him the right to go in there and set up his outpost camp.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There are many different types of tourist operators. You know, in Quetico Park, some of those fellows have very little in camp facilities, but they rent canoes, paddles and make all kinds of provisions for those people making camping and canoeing trips. They are bona fide tourist operators. They are supplying a need to the general public.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Tourist outfitters.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Tourist outfitters. They haven't got a rash of motel units and this type of thing, but they do provide that service.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Oh, yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And if they are properly licensed by I and T, then we have no choice but to issue land-use permits. Regarding your other point that this fellow is being issued land-use permits in an area that is being denied to other people, I would like some specifics because this is not policy of this ministry. If it's available for one, it's available for all.

Mr. R. S. Smith: The others were not tourist outfitters.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But the thing is we—

Mr. R. S. Smith: They are individuals who wanted to put up camps and who wanted land-use permits—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's not a deferred or closed zone—

Mr. R. S. Smith: But it is a closed zone.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But if a tourist operator gets a right there, the individual has a right to go there too. There's no distinction.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But the tourist operator is allowed in a closed zone, that's what I can't understand.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would like the specifics on that because there is something that just doesn't add up there. I would like to hear from you.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Okay.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Stokes.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, I have several unrelated items that I want to talk about. The first one that comes to mind is very timely since the select committee on snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles which submitted its interim report in June, 1973, has now made its final report. We made a presentation to the provincial-municipal liaison committee last Friday morning over in the Macdonald Block. Of course, the municipal representatives want time to analyse the impact of our recommendations before they're translated into legislation, and they want an opportunity to provide some input.

But we do mention in both our reports—the interim report and the final report—the need for the Ministry of Natural Resources, in conjunction with the Ministry of the Environment, to become involved in the provision of trail areas—some multi-use, a few single-use trails. The former Provincial Secretary for Resources Development (Mr. Lawrence) held a trail symposium that attracted people from many recreational outlets and they were all, I think almost unanimously, agreed that if these people were going to be allowed to pursue their recreational activities, it was going to have to be done in a very orderly way in order to minimize the conflicts that inevitably arise when you get birdwatchers mixing up with snowmobilers, and when you get trail-bike riders mixing up with birdwatchers and hikers. So it came through loud and clear to us that—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The next vote.

Mr. Stokes: The use of Crown land?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, snowmobiling and recreational trails would.

Mr. Stokes: Oh, all right.

Mr. Chairman: Under conservation authorities?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, under the next one, three.

Mr. Chairman: Oh.

Mr. Stokes: Okay, fine. If that's where you want to discuss it, I'll leave it till then.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We can do it all there because we have some funds for that.

Mr. Stokes: I'll try not to repeat myself on the next vote then. I'll pick up from where I left off. The acquisition of land, in this vote; I see that you've got \$8.4 million for acquisition-construction of physical assets. What percentage of this actual amount will go toward the acquisition of land?

I suspect there's an overlap on item 7 of vote 2202 and item 2 of 2203, because I see you've got acquisition-construction of physical assets in both votes. One of them is \$8.4 million and the other one is \$6.6 million. So, it's pretty hard for us, without having some detail, to differentiate and to see where we should bring it up.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Stokes: I'm sure that anything we bring up under one, we won't bring up under another. But I'm thinking in terms of—I think we've—

Mr. Haggerty: We should have a breakdown between the two.

Mr. Stokes: Yes. We've implored you to acquire the some 80,000 acres of land that I'm told is available on Manitoulin Island; the tenure resides with Ontario Paper at the present time. That is the largest tract of good recreational land left in the Province of Ontario, and I hope that that too doesn't fall into the hands of speculators under foreign control before you decide to move in. Now, do you want to bring it up here, or do you want to bring it up under 2203?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. We can talk about it right here.

Mr. Stokes: All right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I can mention about the 80,000 acres of land now being held by the Ontario Paper Co. on Manitoulin Island. I think it's fair to say that there are foreign interests interested in purchasing that particular land.

Mr. Stokes: You want to believe it!

Hon. Mr. Bernier: When we heard about this we took immediate steps to begin negotiations with the Ontario Paper Co. Those negotiations are going on now, in the hope that we can reach an agreeable price because the province is very interested in acquiring this land.

Mr. Stokes: Yes. I don't know whether you should tip your hat, but the last figure I heard—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Pretty high.

Mr. Stokes: —was in excess of \$6 million. But even at that, you know, it's a bargain to what it'll be if it's allowed to fall into the hands of others, and then you make the determination that you're going to expropriate or buy it back whatever the cost. The longer you procrastinate the more it's going to cost you.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But I can assure you we're not procrastinating any longer, because we're on the programme right now and negotiations are going on.

Mr. Stokes: I'm glad to hear it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do you want a breakdown on the land acquisition for 1974-1975?

Mr. Stokes: Yes, I would.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Niagara Escarpment \$5,304,000; parkland in general \$1,656,000.

Mr. Stokes: Parks?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, parkland generally across the province. Algonquin Park \$550,000; Quetico Park \$34,000.

Mr. Stokes: Oh, come on! That's not even a commitment.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's a start.

Mr. Haggerty: How much?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is \$34,000. CORTSS \$283,000.

Mr. R. S. Smith: What's that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: \$283,000, CORTSS programme. That's the Canada-Ontario Rideau-Trent-Severn System. Nature reserves \$224,000; fish and wildlife areas, \$240,000; and land section, \$147,000.

Mr. R. S. Smith: The \$6 million purchase you were talking about, has the new bill that was passed in the Legislature made any

difference in the bargaining insofar as the price is concerned? The foreign purchaser would have to pay \$7.2 million if he bought it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it may be a little too early to assess that point, but the Ministry of Government Services does all our land purchases.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But you are providing the money.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They do the negotiations, yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: So we are talking about \$1.5 million.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I haven't had any indications from the other ministry as to what effect it has had as yet. You might question the Minister of Government Services (Mr. Snow) on that. I am not aware; maybe some of the staff are. The deputy says it is just too early to have any reaction, but I am sure it will have. Let's be honest; it has got to have a reaction.

Mr. Stokes: Well, you mentioned—

Mr. R. S. Smith: It could well put the price up to you people. In other words, it could react in that way so that it would cost you more to buy it than before.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think it would put the price up because April 9 is the evaluation date. We would go back to that date and date it from there.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I know, but still the property is 20 per cent greater in value now than it was then because of the almost 20 per cent surcharge tax that would be put on it for a non-Canadian purchaser. So the seller in this particular instance could say to you: "I have a purchaser willing to pay \$7.2 million; and what are you willing to pay, since you were negotiating at \$6 million?" You know, this is one area where the tax could create a higher value for that property which the people of Ontario would then have to pay to the Canadian paper company.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This is something we will have to assess very carefully as we—

Mr. R. S. Smith: I guess so, because it is \$1.5 million or more that you are talking about and it could be an extra cost to the taxpayers.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, right.

Mr. Stokes: You mentioned a sum of \$550,000 for Algonquin. What are you doing? Are you buying somebody out, or are you going to use this for increased management, increased supervision? Could you give us a breakdown of the \$550,000 allocated for Algonquin?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This is for a number of cottages that are being returned to the Crown. We estimate it will be in this neighbourhood in the year 1974.

Mr. Stokes: You mean you are buying them out?

Mr. Haggerty: Buying them out?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, if they want to give up their leases prior to the expiry date.

Mr. Stokes: But surely you are not giving compensation for any of those where the leases have automatically expired?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. We don't do that; but if they have 10 years left on their lease.

Mr. Stokes: And on what basis are you providing compensation?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are not paying any compensation; we are buying out—as we do in Rondeau.

Mr. Haggerty: But in Rondeau you extended the leases for about 21 years or 29 years.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, the same principle was applied in Rondeau—

Mr. Haggerty: Are you destroying those buildings as you purchase them?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we take them out. Some of the ones in Algonquin we are maintaining for historical reasons. Apparently some of them have a certain amount of historical significance.

Mr. Stokes: So you are going to maintain them?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Some of them. There is the odd one that has the historical aspect to it which we are maintaining.

Mr. Stokes: Could you give us a breakdown—I am not saying right now—but could you give us a breakdown as to how you are going to dispose of the \$550,000 and on what basis?

Mr. R. S. Smith: The Algonquin Park advisory committee recommended a great num-

ber of purchases around the periphery of the park, and I would like to know—you can answer at the same time—if any of that programme is being followed in this amount of money?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we can get to that question at the same time. We will answer them together.

Mr. Ferrier: Usually the park cottagers are fighting tooth and nail to stay in there; and I am surprised that a number of them are ready to sell. Maybe they figure if they can get something for it now they can establish in another area and have more of a permanent camp.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that in the coming year we expect 22 properties to become available in Rondeau Park alone. These are people whose families have grown up. They know that the lease will not be extended, so if they want to turn it back to the Crown we'd pick it up now.

Mr. Haggerty: Is this part of your management programme in Algonquin Park?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. The master plan for Algonquin Park, you might say—and we might discuss this later—is in the printing stages now. It should be available.

Mr. Haggerty: It is about four years we have been waiting for it, isn't it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It has been a good plan. We've had a tremendous amount of input from the advisory committee which had to be incorporated into the plan.

Mr. Ferrier: I thought last fall I'd be debating some of the legislation with you and was let down when you didn't bring it in.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will have it in very shortly.

Mr. Stokes: You mentioned \$34,000 for Quetico. The advisory committee on Quetico Park submitted a report which was concurred in and accepted as government policy by the government and you were well on the way to implementing it. This \$34,000 doesn't look like a commitment; what are you going to do?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This year we are going to buy 2,114 acres of lands now being held by other people.

Mr. Stokes: You mean the mining patents?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They might be mining patents, in Quetico Park.

Mr. Stokes: What about funds to provide access? One of the most serious problems, as we saw it, was that the southern routes, particularly the canoe routes, were very much over-used and 95 per cent of the people who used the park entered the park from the United States.

One of the things which we felt was absolutely essential for you to move on and move on quickly was to provide greater access to the park from the north. It would encourage more people to come around and enter the park from the north in portions that are very rarely used.

Some of the canoe routes and the portages on the southern end of the park are so well travelled they are just as smooth as the top of this table. We also said we felt you were going to have to put a limit on the number of users going into certain areas in order to allow those areas to rehabilitate themselves. You are going to have to direct people to certain areas until these areas are able to grow up and rehabilitate themselves.

We were quite serious when we said we think it is absolutely essential that you provide access from the Ontario side. Obviously you haven't allocated any funds for this at all.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The question of access to Quetico Park from the north has been very broadly discussed with the people of Atikokan. We had definite plans to move ahead with the northern access at Beaver House. I visited Atikokan, met with the council and chambers of commerce; in fact, I spent a whole day in Atikokan discussing this very issue. It came home to me, loud and clear, that they objected to the development of that site at this point in time. They asked me to review our priorities and that we should be developing something at Nym Lake and—

Mr. Stokes: French Lake.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is another one; it is an Indian name and I can't remember the name of it. I agreed we should change our priorities which we have done. Our staff now are doing a study on Nym Lake—

Mr. Stokes: And the Windigoostigwan?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —and Batchewaung. Our initial study showed that the terrain was not good at Nym Lake but we were prepared to go back to Batchewaung because it is closer to Atikokan—it would have more economic return—rather than developing Beaver House which is something like 30 miles from Atiko-

kan. In view of the economic situation at Atikokan I agreed that we were going in the wrong direction. We've reversed ourselves and now we are going back. Those are the reasons you are not seeing this here.

Mr. Stokes. Does this mean we have to wait another year before you will take some initiative to do that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm afraid it does in view of the strong objection to it. We were prepared to go for Beaver House this year but they said "We'll wait this period of time but let us in on the studies and your involvement at Nym Lake and Batchewaung." This is the route we think we should go rather than go through Beaver House because once the traffic patterns are established it will be difficult for us to change them; with which I agree. And in view of that, there may be a delay of six or eight months, but we'll have something going next spring.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, okay. Now, I want to get into something unrelated to that item we were just discussing, but which certainly falls within this vote, because it involves pits and quarries. This is an administrative problem. I don't like to quote from letters. This is a full-page letter, but I think in order to make you aware of the problems that people are confronted with that I will read the letter. It's a letter that was sent to the district maintenance engineer of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications in Thunder Bay. Your involvement will become quite apparent as it goes on.

With regard to your letter of April 16, 1974, your argument for conserving gravel does not hold. The jackfish pit is where the most trouble crops up, and the land there is gravel from Highway 17 to Lake Superior. This is very good gravel running hundreds of feet deep. The area is approximately three by two miles. I think we could safely say there are millions of yards available in this area, and yet this is the area in which most of the trouble occurs.

Here is a classic example of the reason why the present system is no good. The owner of the Coach House Motel sees me going by with my loader on a tandem. He flags me down and wants 20 cu. yds. of gravel. According to the way I operate at the present time, I would go to the pit, run the loader off and haul two loads at \$1.50 per cu. yd. Then I would reload and be on my way in 1½ hours or less. Thus the gravel would cost the motel owner \$30, and I would send in the \$4.50 to the Ministry of Mines at the end of the month.

According to the way in which you would prefer to have it done, I would have to phone the Lakehead, and usually the nearest phone that works is in Terrace Bay. Thus I would drive into Terrace Bay and phone. Generally Mr. Poutanen from your mines branch is out of town.

But let's assume that he is just out of the office and that he will be back in an hour. Then he has to phone the MTC for permission and phone me back. This all takes time. By the time things are set up, at least three hours have gone by, so instead of taking 1½ hours to haul the gravel, it takes me 4½ hours. This shoots the cost up to approximately \$100.

We all know that I can't charge five dollars per yd. to haul gravel two miles. So I have to either refuse the job, or do it at a loss, and the motel owner doesn't understand this any more than you do. I think that Mr. Bruce Scott of the Terrace Bay branch of the Ministry of Natural Resources, and Mr. Bouchard and Mr. Martinson, who are patrolmen for the MTC are quite capable of managing MTC. They were given gravel pits in this area. These men are usually quite easy to find. Provided they were given the power to make on-the-spot decisions, there would be very little time lost as I usually see these men a couple of times a day while travelling the highway.

As for the tough policies you talk about, I can assure you that I will do everything in my power to see that the authorities overthrow them. It should also be brought to your attention that my bulldozer spent three hours last fall stripping the MTC pit at Rossport at no charge, so I don't think I've got anything for nothing. I think you could serve the people of Ontario better if you found a simple solution to this simple problem rather than blow it up out of all proportions at the taxpayers' expense.

That letter was written by a contractor in my area, and you realize the logistics of getting, first of all, authority from the MTC; who, in turn, has to go to your mines branch and say, yes, let him take 20 yd of gravel. Each time this is done authority has to be given for each individual order, and as you must understand it is absolutely ludicrous that you are going to have to get authority for every little bit of gravel that is taken out.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That particular pit, though, must be a wayside pit and that is licensed to the Ministry of Transportation and Communications.

Mr. Stokes: It probably is, but it is a pit that is handy. I have been into the pit on numerous occasions looking for raspberries and it runs clear to Lake Superior.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Raspberries grow in gravel pits?

Mr. Stokes: Yes, they do. But you know, this is just an instance of how difficult it is for some people or a contractor to serve the people. He serves your ministry on numerous occasions. He does contract work for MTC.

As a matter of fact, your people think very highly of him because he is ready on a moment's notice and he gives them very good service. And, yet, this is just a perfect example of the bureaucracy that is built up around something as simple as extracting gravel from a pit.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think I said earlier in my remarks that we were curbing the number of gravel pits that were being opened up in northern Ontario for obvious reasons.

Mr. Stokes: Just a simple gravel pit.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. I would think that he should be able to work out something with MTC on an ongoing basis if the population is not that heavy and if the demand for aggregate is not that heavy.

Mr. Stokes: Well, why does your man Mr. Poutanen have to get into this?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know. This is news to me, really. Mr. Eckel just informed me that we are just decentralizing further so that the local individual in our ministry will have the right. But I don't know what involvement he would have if the licence has been given to the MTC.

Mr. Stokes: The thing is that you have stated it on numerous occasions. And I agree it is something that you should be working toward. You say that in each of your district offices you now have a presence where people are able to make routine decisions with regard to mining operations or quarrying operations, for instance.

So, one can inform your man, Bruce Scott, in Terrace Bay, and say, "I have an order for so many yards of gravel." They know the guy. They know how he operates,

and if he is given the authority to operate in that pit and if things are not okay they go to him and say, "Come on, shape up or else." If it is a thing just off the highway and if they are patrolling it every day and if this fellow doesn't act in a way that is expected of him, they darn well tell him so.

That obviously isn't the case. It's a bureaucratic monstrosity that if somebody needs 20 yd of gravel they have to phone Mr. Poutanen who, in turn, phones somebody else in MTC. If they are out for a coffee, this guy sits there, waiting.

You know the way things happen in northern Ontario; A guy goes by on the highway and he is flagged down and he'll say, "Are you on your way to the pit?" "Yes, I am." "Will you bring me 20 yards of gravel?"

Well, wait a minute. He's got to go all the way back to Terrace Bay to phone and your man in Terrace Bay has to phone Poutanen who, in turn, phones somebody else in MTC. That's just absurd.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is no reason why this should be because, in our decentralization, our goal was to give—and it still is—to place that authority at the local level. Now, if you will just bear with us and we get sufficient time that authority will be there because I can sympathize here.

Mr. Stokes: Well, I just wanted to bring it to your attention because that is what has happened.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is ridiculous. Yes, it really is.

Mr. Stokes: Okay, fine.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Much of that authority hasn't got down below the regional office yet. We argued this week. It's the same story.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We went through that last time. We checked on it.

Mr. R. S. Smith: It's the same story. It stopped at the regional level. So instead of phoning Toronto they've got to phone Sudbury or Port Arthur or some other.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I believe we had a member of our staff contact you on that after the last review of the estimates.

Mr. R. S. Smith: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We had the matter clarified. At least, I was told it was clarified, to your satisfaction.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, except that it just keeps coming up and up and up all through. I suppose it will take—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that when you go into a major reorganization and do something as dramatic as this, really—to push the responsibility out in the field—it is going to take time to seep down. It is not going to happen just by the snap of your fingers.

Mr. Stokes: Well, I think we have a responsibility from time to time. I don't think we should trot out each individual little problem that we have. But this is a classic example and I felt that if I brought it to your attention you could say, "Well, it isn't working as well as we expected, so let's refine it so that the job gets done with a minimum of friction and everybody would be much happier for it.

I have two other land matters that I want to bring to your attention. These are mineral exploration topics. I don't want to get into mining per se because it comes under another vote, but it is land. On page 25 of the particular document that was put out in 1973 by the Ministry of Natural Resources, although I didn't get a chance to go through it with any great detail, on going over it during the question period I came across something that I found kind of interesting, because it was something that I had done quite a bit of research on a few years ago dealing with these estimates. On page 25 it says in connection with dealing with mining lands, "Certain areas are patented lands under the jurisdiction of Algoma Central Railway." As you well know they have patented lands of about 1.5 million acres which go over several townships.

There were some saw-offs made with Algoma Central Railway with regard to mining rights which they hadn't paid for for some 30 years and this was noticed only by a clerk in the former department of mines. That was forgiven by having some of the land revert back to the Crown. Some other indebtedness that they had to the government was forgiven by virtue of the fact that certain species of timber reverted to the Crown.

I am wondering could you tell me what the status is of the approximately 1.5 million acres. Do we own any of the timber on it? What portion of the original holdings has now reverted to the Crown? Obviously they do retain some degree of control over the mining rights because it says: "The company officer dealing with these lands and to whom inquiries about staking should be directed is

the superintendent of lands and forests of the Algoma Central Railway at 289 Bay St. in Sault Ste. Marie. So they have their own superintendent of land and forests.

I am wondering, what is the status of those 1.5 million acres of land? Having regard for our need for timber in certain areas close to the mills and of seeing that they are maintained at their present level of production, what control do we have over those resources and over how much of that land do you have some degree of control?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I might mention, Mr. Chairman, I don't have all those details here with me at this point in time, but we would be glad to get all those questions answered.

Mr. Stokes: I thought that I should bring them up now so that maybe we could deal with them under the mines vote or the forests vote.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: By Friday we will get the information here.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, right. The snowmobile trails are coming later. I think that is all I have on this particular vote.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Do you have the detail on the Algonquin Park expenditures there now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think they said \$550,000. We are getting the breakdown.

Mr. Haggerty: May I have breakdown of the expenditure of \$5.5 million that you have for the Niagara Escarpment for land acquisition? When is this land going to be purchased from the escarpment?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is \$5.3 million. Those would be lands that were earmarked under the Gertler report. Following our further refinement of that report, it was obvious that other lands had to be picked up. This is part of that overall programme.

Mr. Haggerty: You wouldn't have any indication where this would be, though. Is it all in the Niagara Peninsula up around Dundas, in that area, or is it up around somewhere else?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Maybe Mr. Eckel would like to comment.

Mr. Eckel: I haven't a map here now, but if the committee so wishes we can provide a map indicating where the land will be purchased to the extent of \$5.3 million as we have indicated here in the statement. If the committee so wishes we can provide that information.

Mr. Haggerty: Why wouldn't that be a common practice in this committee room? You have enough bare walls here that you could have a projector here that would pinpoint some of these errors when you are talking about Quetico Park and—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I'll tell you, Mr. Haggerty, there is so much going on in our ministry that if we had all the material displayed that we are dealing with—

Mr. Haggerty: It's pretty hard for us to keep tabs on it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —this room wouldn't be large enough.

Mr. Haggerty: Oh, I think it would be.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In fact, the Legislature wouldn't be large enough to put up all the very important and progressive programmes that the Ministry of Natural Resources is involved in.

Mr. Ferrier: We are supposed to be scrutinizing the spending and maybe we should take some more time at it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right. Surely. I said earlier, we are prepared to sit and discuss this at length.

Mr. Haggerty. Yes, well, I would like—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If this is a specific request, we'll be glad to get it for you, really.

Mr. Haggerty: —some indication where this land is going to be purchased.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right. What we think may be of interest to you, may not be your particular priority.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, on the point we are coming into—the estimates of conservation authorities, and in particular I am talking about the Niagara Peninsula—they are going out and buying land on the Niagara Escarpment, when perhaps they should be looking after the flood control plains.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we'll make sure we have that map for you after dinner hour.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, I agree with you.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sure, you'd be interested in it.

I might say that all these future land purchases have been carefully discussed with all the municipal councils. We've had meetings up and down the Niagara Escarpment. We are working very closely, of course, with

the Niagara Escarpment Commission, because they are heavily involved now, too.

Mr. Haggerty: The land in the Shorthills—it would be taken in on this vote, too? Or would it be the next vote?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am not sure.

Mr. Haggerty: Probably in the next vote.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Shorthills is under the recreation vote, I am told.

Mr. Haggerty: Okay, that is it.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I have a general question in regard to this acquisition of land. I know all the great programmes that are going on in that ministry—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Thanks, Mr. Smith.

Mr. R. S. Smith: —but we find once in a while that sometimes the programmes are great and sometimes they are not going on. Anyway, could you tell me if the amount of money set aside for the acquisition of land in northern Ontario this year is any greater than it was last year, or is it less? Because, obviously, over the past few years your acquisition of land has been directed mostly toward southern Ontario. That's where the money has been spent.

But there are some specific areas that have to be purchased in northern Ontario and they never seem quite to get up to that line where you cut off the funds for northern Ontario.

So, tell me if it's the same amount of money as last year, or less or more? And how much more, if more; and how much less, if less?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, my staff tells me it's about the same as last year.

Mr. Haggerty: More or less?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: More or less, about the same as last year. But I would have to say to you that the greatest need to bring back into Crown control is in southern Ontario, because it's just that—

Mr. R. S. Smith: I am not arguing with that at all.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —90 or 95 per cent of the area of northern Ontario is now Crown land.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I don't argue with that thesis whatsoever, except that there are certain specific areas where land has to be pur-

chased in northern Ontario. And over the years—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: For such purposes as parks and recreation?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Wet lands—all the different things. There are some lakes that are 95 per cent publicly-owned. So in those areas you do have some kind of responsibility to start buying something. I am talking about the perimeter of the lake. Whether the lake is in southern Ontario or in northern Ontario, you do have the same responsibility.

But you say there is no difference in the amount. Well, in fact, that means that there is a decrease in the amount of land you are going to buy. You and I both know that the cost of land has increased in the past year. So you are possibly buying 15 per cent less land in northern Ontario this year than you bought the year before. And although you are increasing your expenditures in the south, you are decreasing them, in effect, in the north. I don't think that's right.

I think that those areas that need it, whether they be north or south, should be looked after on an equal basis. Don't draw a line and say, "Well, 90 per cent is owned by us north of this line." You just sound like Leslie Frost, you know. "Ninety per cent of all that up there is owned by the Crown and anything below that is in trouble, so we spend our money below."

But there are specific areas and specific lakes, like Lake Nipissing, where you don't have any ownership to speak of whatsoever; where the necessity is for you to go in and buy land and develop for the public use. Mr. Maeck, your parliamentary assistant, I'm sure would agree with me on that—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He's brought it to my attention already.

Mr. R. S. Smith: —since part of the lake is in his area and most of it is in mine.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think he's made the point already in his short stay with the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I don't care who's made the point. The fact is the money isn't in your budget to do it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, not this year. We'll certainly be looking into it next year, I can assure you.

Mr. Stokes: The collection of provincial land tax—I understand it is a revenue as opposed to an expenditure but it must cost

you something. Do you do the collecting or do you do the assessing?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We do the assessing only.

Mr. Stokes: You don't do the collecting?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We don't do that. The Minister of Revenue (Mr. Meen) does the collecting and we do the assessing for him because we have more people in the field. It falls into our inspection much more easily and, of course, it's a saving to that particular ministry to have our people doing this type of work there.

Mr. Stokes: Is it still done every three years?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, the reassessment is every three years.

Mr. Stokes: If I owned a lot or a parcel of land in an unorganized territory it would be in my interest to build something right after the assessment?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. You have an obligation each year, when the assessment notice goes out, to notify the Ministry of Revenue of any prior improvements you make on your property.

Mr. Stokes: On that basis you would go in and make an assessment?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, that's right. We go and check it. If you reported a major improvement to your property, an officer would go in and check it. Or we would just add it; take an estimated value of your improvement according to your figures submitted and recheck that every three years. But to go in there at every beck and call—there is an obligation on the individual to supply the information voluntarily to the department and they add it on.

Mr. Stokes: In connection with the use of Crown land or the use to which land is to be put in unorganized territories—of course, we have trouble every time there's a bit of a flurry of development. We have to apply subdivision control and, of course, everybody gets uptight about the whole thing. You know as well as or better than I do what can happen.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I do.

Mr. Stokes: To what extent does your ministry become involved when you find it necessary to impose subdivision control under section 17, I think it is, of the Public Lands Act?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is not subdivision control per se. That is what they call development control, overall development. Under section 17 we don't get into subdivision control.

Mr. Stokes: Right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's development.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, development control. To what extent do you know, say, there'll be no subdivision of a parcel under the umbrella of development control? I've had several and I've had your ministry look at one when the amount of land we were talking about was considerable. Of course, it would meet all the criteria imposed by the Ministry of the Environment or the Ministry of Health because of the size of the parcel. Because there wasn't sufficient access at the present time, even though you have the right to say a certain percentage of the area would have to be set aside for access, you say, "No, we don't want any development." You don't know yet—I'm thinking of Pickle Lake, as you well know, when we were up there opening that facility owned by the "Happy Hooker."

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That was a very pleasant weekend, I must admit.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, it was.

Mr. Ferrier: Was she there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, she wasn't.

Mr. Ferrier: The "Happy Hooker" made his day.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They might take me out of context on that.

Mr. Stokes: Just as an aside, what we did when we were opening up that facility—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, be careful. You had better explain what the facility was, in the "Happy Hooker's" vault.

Mr. Ferrier: My gosh, there are some really important things going on in the northwest.

Mr. Chairman: Where does the "Happy Hooker" come under this vote?

Mr. Stokes: As you well know, as a result of the determination made by your ministry, along with TEIGA and others, it looks as though there's going to be another community close to Pickle Lake—maybe right in Pickle Lake or somewhere in the Central Patricia-Pickle Lake area—associated with the development at Umex.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, right.

Mr. Stokes: Now the thing is, they have put a freeze on. A fellow bought a considerable parcel of land, but because there is an old store at the front of it they say they won't let any development occur at the back of it, and I am sure that development is going to occur. It is inevitable it will occur.

So I am just wondering to what extent does your ministry become involved with TEIGA, in conjunction with other ministries, make the determination that they are going to put a freeze on development. What do you say to them when they say "Well we think we know a little bit more about what is likely to happen here"? I think that even though you don't have any municipal organization it is inevitable that there will be some, so why do you inhibit any kind of development now? Why doesn't somebody take the initiative and say, "Let's make sure that the environmental requirements are taken care of and the health requirements are taken care of?"

Get some of your people who are knowledgeable to lay out sort of a tentative subdivision plan so that you will get some kind of early planning and something that somebody can build on later on, rather than having to wait for some kind of municipal organization. When Umex decides to go ahead and it has 500 workers on the scene coming in with families, then of course everything happens in such a way that you are going to get unorganized development that you are going to have to come in and resolve later on any way.

So I am wondering, why couldn't TEIGA and your ministry—and you do have surveyors, and you have planners—say, "Okay, let's come up with a tentative plan that will meet the criteria that are laid down now," and of course if there have to be some minor amendments made later on okay, so be it. But the thing is, you have got a plan whereby things can happen, but they will happen in an orderly fashion during that interim period.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Let me first point out that we work very closely with TEIGA on developments of townsites—

Mr. Stokes: Yes, you just put a freeze on.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But we have to move in this direction because we have the responsibility for the proper development and control of Crown land, and it is all Crown land in that particular area. I have to say to you, as you are very much aware, that when you impose certain restrictions on Crown

lands in unorganized areas there is immediate reaction by local people who have never been under any form of municipal government or any control at all.

It is a very painful experience, I think you will agree with me. But we have to move in this direction to get some orderly development and orderly control. If you look at some of the communities in northern Ontario—and one of the communities in my area alone, Red Lake—you will see the amount of dollars and the amount of litigation that has occurred in the last few years because of the helter-skelter development that has been allowed to occur over the past few years. Now that we impose some form of plan or orderly development in there the problems are extremely painful, and they are still going on.

Mr. Stokes: I am not arguing against it. What I am saying is that somebody has to take the initiative to allow for this development in an orderly way until you get a municipal council or somebody locally who is going to accept responsibility to carry on with this orderly planning. But I think that your ministry, in conjunction with TEIGA, has to allow for some kind of development that meets the criteria that you have laid down for the present.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In many of these areas large pieces of property are held by certain individuals who are very aggressive, and as soon as they hear of a major development occurring they want to get on with the job, regardless of whether it is an industrial site, or a commercial site, or a residential site. It may not fit into what will eventually be the overall plan. The course to follow is to get into a regular planning committee and get the local people involved so that they can plan their community as they want it. If we go out on a limb and say, "We will allow a subdivision to go in here and a commercial development to go in there," and it gets well on its way—because these things take a certain amount of time—then we run into a real jackpot later on, because we have allowed it to happen. Granted, the process of planning is slow and should be speeded up. I will buy that. I'll accept that.

Mr. Stokes: That is all I am saying. You have that limited amount of development at the present time. We have got the new motel and it was a facility that was very badly needed, and things like that are going to go up even though you don't have any municipal organization. All I am saying is that it would be possible for you to lay down a tentative plan, having regard for what the needs are

going to be by Umex, for this dormitory community. So that you get in on the ground floor and you don't inhibit development or don't control development.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I know that. I don't think we want to inhibit development but we want development in an orderly manner. Maybe Lloyd can get involved in the more technical aspects of it than I can.

Mr. Eckel: Certainly we would agree with you that to have a plan ready and waiting at the time these developments come to the surface would be most desirable. But we don't have plans, and the purpose of section 17 is to give you some breathing time to say to people who want to develop that you must come to us and describe your development plan before you will get permission to develop. This at least sort of keeps things cool until you have your overall plan completed for the eventual development of the entire area.

It is another step in the process—you mentioned two steps to the process—culminating in a municipality with complete control. You have a plan before that. We are saying there is one other step and that is something like section 17 that says, "Well, look, a development is going to be controlled here and you must have permission before you do anything."

Before this sort of thing is applied, section 17, we now go to the areas affected by it and explain the need—that it is really in the interests of the people there that the section 17 restricted area is going to be applied. It gives you that little bit of stretch room until you get your plan developed. Then everybody knows the plan and they know what the rules are going to be. That is really the purpose of it. We do work with TEIGA very carefully in developing the kind of conditions that will prevail in this interim period where you have development control.

Mr. Stokes: I don't disagree with development controls. All I am saying is that you shouldn't inhibit much needed development as a result of it, and if there isn't a municipal presence, which there isn't in unorganized territory, I think that you should try to give the company and the municipality when it exists, something upon which to build. So that you don't have 500 new families move into an area and then you say: "Okay, we will set up some kind of improvement district board or some local council," and they say: "Now there it is, make something of it." It just doesn't happen.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is a good point.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. R. S. Smith: The problem here, though, is that—whether it is under section 17 or under some other regulation of TEIGA—many times it stretches out for years and years and years—

Mr. Stokes: Timagami.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Sure, Timagami, as an example, has been under order now since about 1964 or 1965, almost since I have been here. It is impossible for a municipality such as that—and it is a municipality now, an improvement district—to start to formulate a plan of development there. First, they don't have the people to do it, and secondly, they don't have the money. No matter how many orders you put on the plate, unless you step in with a team to develop some type of a plan for that area, you are really not doing much for those people except saying to them: "You can't build and stop right here." And of course there, it has been 10 years now. And they are still waiting for some kind of a plan.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The plan is out.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The plan is out.

Mr. R. S. Smith: No, no. That is the lake plan.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The lake plan, yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But I am talking about the town itself.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The townsite, yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I was on the committee—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: An excellent plan.

Mr. R. S. Smith: An excellent plan.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: My congratulations to you, sir, for your involvement.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, but anyway, the fact of the matter is the town itself, and the people there, have been under an order now for God knows how long, and development is just about stopped in the whole area. There has been no attempt by government to step in and assist those people of that improvement district in developing a proper plan of subdivision or a proper plan of use for the whole area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, you see you are caught on the horns of a dilemma because as we move along—and we believe in participatory democracy, so to speak, where the public does get involved and has an input—the public is demanding more and more that they be involved in the planning process. It slows up the whole operation.

Mr. R. S. Smith: That is not what slowed it up there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, but I think the day that government could move in and set a plan and impose it on people is gone, really. We just can't do that anymore. We want their involvement. We want them to be part and parcel of the planning process.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, but the day for the provision of professional assistance along with money has not gone. That's what is needed in those areas.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I think the people are prepared to go ahead and draw up a plan with your people, with your professional assistance, and with your money. But if it doesn't come, it's not going to be done and you have a real problem developing there right now. You have a sewer and water problem. You are going to have some real health problems if you don't move quickly.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But that type of planning, with all respect, is not within our ministry. It is within TEIGA's responsibility. We have planned the Crown lands, but that is an organized municipality.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Well, it is now—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: —but up until six or seven years ago it wasn't. It was an unorganized municipality—an unorganized township, made up of a bunch of unorganized townships. There was nothing done.

But the other point I wanted to ask you about insofar as this is concerned is that the ministry, TEIGA, has announced that it is coming forward with legislation in regard to unorganized townships. As I understand it, there's going to be some form of interim government; perhaps, some type of right, in those areas, to form committees with certain types of functions to provide certain services.

What's the input of your ministry into that? Obviously, they are going to be taking over in many areas where you people now have—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You are referring to community councils; to the reference that was made in the Throne Speech?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, and the Treasurer (Mr. White) has referred to it for a few years now without—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, right. Well the involvement we have had up to this point in time has been through the policy field. The provincial resources development policy field has an input into the setting up of community councils. That legislation, I am told, is being drafted at the present time and should be introduced before the end of June. As to what further involvement we have, I will just ask Mr. Eckel—

Mr. Eckel: The ministry will be involved in this; we will be participating in this manner: Certain of the communities in the north will be assigned to this ministry and the ministry will exercise development control. That is the first step so that things don't get away from you completely. The second will be the development of plans for those communities with the people involved.

Eventually, as these communities develop, there will be a transfer of responsibility to TEIGA and we will eventually bow out of the control or the involvement in the operation of these communities. But, at the outset, this ministry will be involved.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Does that include some areas that are partially developed now?

Mr. Eckel: Yes, it does.

Mr. R. S. Smith: So you are going to have some of the problem areas.

Mr. Eckel: Yes, we will be involved in some quite small communities. As a matter of fact, they won't be the large communities because TEIGA, with much greater resources and probably greater capability than we have, will take the larger communities. We will assist in the planning and the development control of the smaller ones until they are capable of taking over.

Mr. R. S. Smith: You will provide professional assistance in those areas?

Mr. Eckel: Yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Fine, thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 7 be carried?

Item 7 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Vote No. 8, conservation authorities. Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, Mr. Chairman, some years ago I brought to the attention of the previous Minister of Lands and Forests a problem concerning the usage—usurping I guess it is—by the ministry here of approval of funds for Black Creek. That is a little hamlet of Stevensville, Ont.

We have an energetic mayor there, Earl Beam. He also is one of the aldermen for the town of Fort Erie. He has been very active on it and he also is a member of the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority and is pursuing it from that direction and with, perhaps, little success.

Now, I understand one of the problems is that there are no funds being allocated from your ministry for that project. But there was a study some 12 or 13 years ago to have this completed. It's the water course flowing to the Niagara River.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Is this the improvement to the channel at Black Creek?

Mr. Haggerty: Well, it would be an improvement along the whole stream. It's a little water course. The conservation authority had bought some land west of the little village of Stevensville. At one time along the creek there were a grist mill, a sawmill and a cider mill all run by water. I guess they want to build this into some type of a little park development and the Niagara conservation authorities are held up by funds not being available for this. I was just wondering if your department had given any further consideration for funds for that development.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would just point out that we have something like 38 conservation authorities which are each involved—

Mr. Haggerty: This would be the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —in a number of programmes. I'll ask Mr. Latornell, the director of the conservation authorities branch, to comment on it in more detail.

Mr. A. D. Latornell (Director, Conservation Authorities Branch): Mr. Haggerty, in a general way I'm afraid I can't answer your question as to the status. I had thought they had finished everything they planned to do out there.

Mr. Haggerty: No, they had further engineering studies on it about four or five

years ago and they seem to be right at a standstill at the present time. I know one of the citizens in the area of Stevensville dedicated, I think, 52 acres of land for park purposes to the conservation authorities. He thought that this would be part and parcel of a programme planned for the park in that area. I don't know if there has been any record or not. Mr. Wilfred House was the donor of that land.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Maybe we could get a full report for you.

Mr. Haggerty: I was just wondering whether you had any constraints on funding for the Niagara conservation authority or have you increased their funds this year?

Mr. Latonnell: They are somewhat increased. There are no more constraints on the Niagara Peninsula than any of the rest. Their particular projects are assessed according to the priorities that they put on them when they request funding and to some degree by what we put on. I don't think they asked for funds for this particular project this year. I can't remember.

Mr. Haggerty: From all the letters I get the indication is that approval has to be given by the ministry. I was just wondering if you could take a closer look at it and see if approval couldn't be granted for additional funds. I believe last year you had given approval for \$1,500 and that doesn't go too far. It should be more like \$150,000 so that we could get it off the ground.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll certainly get a full report for you.

Mr. Haggerty: We have been entreating them to take \$1,500 down because this has been 10 or 12 years now. In one of the stages of the programme they were supposed to bring in fresh water from Lake Erie up around Gasline. That was one of their engineering studies. They were supposed to put in little control weirs there and bring in boating from the Niagara River up to Lake Erie by that route. It would make an excellent canoe route in that area. Too often we don't have them down in the southern part of Ontario. We have the big 45-ft. yachts plying the waterways down there but nothing for the average man.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Such affluence!

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, a canoe or something like that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll get you a further report on that. I might say for the benefit of the committee Mr. Latonnell is just completing his first year as director of the conservation authorities branch. I have to extend him my personal appreciation for the tremendous job that he's doing. He works very closely with the 38 conservation authorities. It's a tremendous task he's doing and he's doing exceptionally well. I'm sure you'll want to join with me in complimenting him on the work he's doing.

Mr. Haggerty: I'm sure we do.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's an excellent programme.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. McIlveen.

Mr. C. E. McIlveen (Oshawa): Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have a letter from the chairman of our conservation authority, R. White. He's the chairman of the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority. He addressed this letter to me:

Enclosed please find copies of the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority's conservation planning study and multi-year forecast, 1974-1978, for your information. The conservation planning study was used as a major guideline for preparation of the multi-year forecast and provides the authority with the basic programme objectives in the provision of conservation services for the area residents.

The multi-year forecast was prepared as required by the conservation authorities branch and is in accordance with their directions. The 1974 funding allocation made for the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority by the conservation authorities branch has resulted in the escalation of our 1975 figures in the multi-year forecast.

The Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority 1974 budget as reviewed by the conservation authority branch in the fall of 1973 called for provincial funding of \$967,298, of which \$220,00 has been allocated to this authority for the calendar year of 1974. As a result of this action we have been forced to include much of our 1974 programme activities in the 1975 forecast in order to maintain the priorities set out in our conservation planning study.

On the assumption that adequate provincial funding will be available during 1975 to complete our scheduled 1974-1975 activities, the remainder of the multi-year forecast period levels out to maintain a reasonably balanced programme. I will be

contacting you again in the near future to discuss the problems facing the authority in this matter.

I had a chat with the chairman of the authority last night and he said all of a sudden he went from nearly \$1 million to \$220,000. He thinks it's simply because the authority didn't utilize all its funds for last year.

It ran into quite a problem with co-ordination with the various municipalities on what land it would buy and because it ran out at year-end it was quite considerably over in its forecast. Now you've cut it this year; you're cutting it down to about a quarter of what it needs. Is there any way it can get that money back? Why would you cut a programme by that amount?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll ask Mr. Latonnell to get into the specifics of that particular problem. I want to indicate that when the conservation authorities were established 25 or 26 years ago by that great provincial leader, the late Leslie Frost, after the Hurricane Hazel situation, I think it's fair to say that budgets were established. Large sums of money were voted under this particular vote for the conservation authorities branch to be matched by funds from the municipalities.

Up to three, four or five years ago a large portion of the provincial allocation was never used up because the municipalities did have difficulty providing sufficient funds to their conservation authorities as their matching percentages—their 50 per cent or 25 per cent or whatever was the case. Now, we're seeing, with the very generous provincial Treasurer we have, giving more funds to the municipalities—

Mr. Stokes: Stop being political!

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): You're politicking there.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I wouldn't do that, you know that.

Mr. Haggerty: Why do the funds go to the municipalities instead of the conservation authorities?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: What I'm trying to say is the municipalities have more funds available to them now. As an example, we're de-centralizing more grants; they're getting larger per capita grants from the province. There is a greater interest in conservation today than there was 10 years ago. It's easier to sell conservation.

The municipalities do have those extra dollars available now. They are able to provide the conservation authorities with their portion of the various programmes that come up.

We have extended ours on a regular basis. We've increased our budgets. This year it may look as if we're down but it's because of a specific land acquisition we had. We have increased our overall budget for the conservation authorities. I have to say to you that, as is happening with MTC and its maintenance programme in which the subsidies it gives the municipalities are on a cost-sharing basis, we're having difficulty meeting what the municipalities can give. I think that's a fair statement.

I've made this known to the conservation authorities on many occasions; the dollars available to them through the municipalities are much easier to get now than five or 10 years ago. We're not returning to the consolidated revenue fund the same amount of dollars that we were a few years ago. They are pressing us for more dollars and they have more programmes because they have the funds from their municipal people.

They've done a good job and I give them credit because I think many municipalities, up to this time, were reluctant to give their share to the conservation authorities' movement. But now they have seen, because of the pressures and because of extra dollars available to them, that they can provide those dollars and so it is creating problems for us. We have to extend those dollars we have and this is the reason we went into a multi-year programme so that we could project, for any period of time, where the expenditures were going and what they would do. We have to set certain priorities with the dollars we have.

Mr. McIlveen: I agree with that, there is no question about it. And the authority agrees with the multi-year—the 5-year and the 20-year—forecast. But why all of a sudden in the area that is probably escalating faster in land values than any other in Ontario, have you cut them down from nearly \$18 million to nearly \$250,000?

Mr. Stokes: Sock it to them, Charlie.

Mr. Ferrier: It doesn't pay to be on the government side, maybe?

Mr. Chairman: Order please. The member for Oshawa.

Mr. McIlveen: I want some answer to why that was done this year, because—

Mr. Stokes: Right.

Mr. McIlveen: —our area is most certainly in need of land acquisitions in this field.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. McIlveen: We have a lakefront study going through the conservation branch; we've got three or four purchases right in and around Metropolitan Oshawa. These programmes will be backlogged again if you take that much funding out in any one year.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We would like to comply with all the requests that we receive in the conservation authorities, but the funds just don't allow it. So I'll ask Art to get more specific as to this particular conservation authority. He may have some information or be able to get it for you.

Mr. Latornell: Mr. Chairman, I don't think the central Lake Ontario authority was cut proportionately any more than the other authorities in the west end of Lake Ontario. The Credit authority was cut proportionately as much last autumn I believe.

After asking the authorities for a detailed budget for the fiscal year 1974-1975, members of the branch staff and the appropriate regional staff met with the chairmen and the secretary-treasurers of each conservation authority, and went over the proposed budget in very great detail, and asked the authority to list the projects they proposed in order of priority. These were based on the requests they made and, to some degree, on their performance in the past year—whether they were able to complete projects—and what, in our judgement—I am speaking here generally—were in some cases unrealistic predictions of what they could do in the forthcoming year. We matched those opinions to the availability of funds that we had to give to the 38 conservation authorities. The result was that some of the most rapidly growing authorities proportionately suffered a very substantial cutback.

We did make some effort this year to encourage some of the authorities in the more easterly part of the province into a bit greater growth; some we feel should be doing a little bit more work.

Mr. McIlveen: How much did you take into consideration the fact that our authority didn't spend their complete budget last year?

Mr. Latornell: We did consider that.

Mr. McIlveen: Yes, but how much did you consider it? Did you use that as a criteria for developing this year's budget?

Mr. Latornell: It entered into the decision as to whether the proposed capital programmes they were suggesting they wished to do were, in fact, going to be completed. Along with the other factors that I've mentioned, we—

Mr. McIlveen: Well, don't you—

Mr. Latornell: I don't think the central Lake Ontario authority was cut back proportionately any more than some of the others.

Mr. McIlveen: I would like to see some of the other authorities around this "golden horseshoe," from Ganaraska up, make some comparative studies of their budgets—how they work and what they are getting. I feel that if you are going to backlog this this year and you do the same thing next year, what good is your 5-year forecast, and what good is our 5-year forecast? You are making a new one for us.

Mr. Latornell: Total funds requested in preliminary budgets from the authorities in August of 1973 were approximately \$40 million to \$42 million. We have approximately half of that available to allocate in grants, so we had to cut very severely.

Mr. McIlveen: Could you send me a list of the authorities from Ganaraska right through to the Niagara Escarpment authority?

Mr. Latornell: Yes, we can get the information.

Mr. McIlveen: I would like to know what their budgets are, and what land mass they are servicing.

Mr. Latornell: Yes.

Mr. McIlveen: There seems to be difference of opinion as to whether our budget was cut more than some of the others.

Mr. Latornell: Okay.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): I wonder if I could ask a question in regard to the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority around Chatham? Was that authority enlarged in size this past year? The waters of Rondeau Bay rose to quite a height, flooding four or five valuable farms. Of course, the farmers concerned asked for assistance from this conservation authority.

I haven't been talking to the chairman, but I am given to understand that this authority hasn't got sufficient money to do any banking or diking or anything else to protect this farm land for three years. I have never heard anything about this officially. I have just heard from the landowners that their land is going to be sitting under water, unless the water recedes, for three years.

One farmer has informed me that he paid \$150,000 for 100 acres, which he says will break him before two years are up. I know it's an act of God. I know it's an unusual situation. I just wondered what information you have to give me to let me know if it will be three years before this Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority will have sufficient money to do some diking or banking to protect this farm land. Or will these people lose land until the water in the bay recedes? Maybe you are not familiar with this case.

Mr. Latornell: In answer to the first part of your question, the Lower Thames authority was enlarged to take in the areas between the watershed boundary, in effect, and the Lake Erie shoreline. A diking programme is going on under the auspices of ARDA.

Mr. Spence: But this is on the bay. The diking is going on under ARDA along the shores of Lake Erie. This is on the bay. The bay has risen, and the high waters of the bay have covered the farm land which ARDA does not cover. It covers the lakeshore.

As I understood it, they enlarged the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority to include that area up to the bay, which, as I am informed, that they cannot do anything on account of money for three years. These farmers are quite concerned about what they are going to do. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars isn't to be sneezed at if you haven't got it. I was just wondering if you could enlighten me on what has taken place, because I haven't been informed by the conservation authority what its intentions are.

Mr. Latornell: I would ask Mr. Murray who works with the ARDA people, under whose auspices some of the diking is going to come in on this—

Mr. Spence: I must say they are doing a tremendous job down there. We are pretty proud of them.

Mr. J. W. Murray (Supervisor, Professional Services, Conservation Authorities Branch): Mr. Chairman, the ARDA programme, as it is

now envisaged, does not include any further work around Rondeau Bay. I know the Lower Thames authority does not have allocated any funds to it this year for work in that particular area. I just can't say—I don't think it will be three years before—but I can't say that those funds will be available within the next year.

Mr. Spence: So, they will just have to wait until the money exists—

Mr. Murray: Yes, I am afraid so. Lake Erie is at its all-time high now and I think we are anticipating lower levels for next year. The lakes generally are on the way down, so there should be some relief in that regard.

Mr. Spence: That will be good news, if that is true.

Mr. Murray: Hopefully so.

Mr. Haggerty: You are talking about five years away. The projections are now it's going to remain at this level for the next two years before we see any decrease at all—particularly on Lake Erie.

Mr. Murray: Yes, but Lake Superior is down now and it will follow in progression from the upper lakes down through the lower ones, of course. As I say, Lake Erie now is at its all-time high. But they are on their way down. And if we have normal precipitations from now on, I think you will see a drop in the levels generally.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier, followed by Mr. Root.

Mr. Ferrier: I have a few things I would like to bring up, Mr. Chairman. I notice that the Mattagami Valley Conservation Authority, which takes in most of the waters in the city of Timmins, has been enlarged to an area of 4,220 square miles. Now, if my arithmetic is correct, the number of square miles within the jurisdiction of conservation authorities is 40,992, so we have over 10 per cent of the land that is in conservation authority areas.

We are not only the largest city in the province, but we have the largest conservation authority. And this enlargement of our conservation authority is sort of a must in that the total region is now covered, as I understand it, by the authority.

With the responsibility for such an area, is there any extra consideration being given to the grants or the funding for the work that may have to be carried out in this authority? What is your budget this year for the authority?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, if I may just comment briefly—I'll ask Mr. Latonnell to get into the details—I would say that our allocation of funds to the conservation authorities is not based on the number of square miles in their jurisdiction. I think they have to submit to us their plan of operation, their projections for certain programmes that are placed on a multi-year basis. I'm not sure if the Mattagami—

Mr. Ferrier: Mattagami Valley Conservation Authority.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes—if the Mattagami Conservation Authority has its multi-year plans submitted or has completed its overall studies of that tremendous watershed it has control over. It will go on a priority basis, as need arises.

I think it is fair to say that even the land acquisition in southern Ontario would far exceed that in northern Ontario, because much of it is Crown lands that they have jurisdiction over. So it would be difficult to compare dollar for dollar on an area basis. But I might have Mr. Latonnell comment further on what's happening up there.

Mr. Latonnell: As Mr. Ferrier knows, most of the activities of that authority—I suppose it goes back to flooding in Timmins in 1960, or thereabouts—has been largely related to flood plain mapping and flood plain clearance. In the budget submitted to the authority this current fiscal year, it is continuing to be in that particular area. In other words, they are concentrating on a project in the area covered by the original Mattagami authority.

I don't have their multi-year programme submission here, so I can't indicate to you at the present time what they are proposing for next year and the following years covered by the multi-year forecasts. But I could find that out and let you have it.

Mr. Ferrier: It is interesting that you mention that matter of the flood plain area. I had a man speak to me this morning as mad as blazes that he was having his place expropriated. He was giving me the arguments as to why he felt that he should not be expropriated and should be allowed to live in the flood plain area. I gather that the hearings of necessity and all of those things have been proceeded with, so that the man's sole right would be the amount of compensation he receives under the expropriation.

It would appear that that project is coming to a conclusion as far as acquiring the properties is concerned, and that they then

will be in a position before very long to be able to develop it into the kind of park that was projected when they undertook that operation about three or four years ago. Is that correct?

Mr. Latonnell: Yes, that is essentially correct.

Mr. Ferrier: Do you think there are any funds available this year to enable them to proceed to that development, or will this have to wait for another year or so?

Mr. Latonnell: There are no funds provided in the current fiscal year's budget.

Mr. Ferrier: So it's still just acquisition as far as their budget is concerned? And if they want to proceed with the parkland development, that will have to come back next year and be considered at that time?

Mr. Latonnell: That's right.

Mr. Ferrier: At this stage I am wondering about such things as whether there are problems with the water in the Timmins area, other than the area that has been under your jurisdiction. With the personnel you have in that area, will your ministry resolve some of the problems or deal with them, rather than saying the conservation authority is supposed to do it? How will that work?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will work very closely with the conservation authorities in these matters, as will the Ministry of the Environment. Once they take over jurisdiction, it is no use having duplication of services and control. This could result in certain problems. They will have to carry the responsibility, but we are willing to help them in every way we can, with the personnel and expertise that we have in the area.

Mr. Ferrier: Some day, I think, the government is going to reach the stage where we have all our water control, whether it be quality, flooding, management or whatever it may be, under one ministry. The responsibility for so many areas now is spread over three or four different ministries; maybe they are all under the general aegis of the Natural Resources secretariat, but I think you are going to reach the stage one day where you have to put them under one particular ministry. Perhaps the whole resource of water will be managed and directed by one particular agency or ministry of government and not diversified, as it is now, under Natural Re-

sources, conservation authorities, Environment and what-have-you down the line. I think that's a matter that probably will have to be worked out.

I have another question that I suppose is not relevant to my area, but I know that the minister and the leader of my party (Mr. Lewis), got into a rather strong debate about it last year. I noticed, in reading an editorial, that the government is still studying but not making any firm proposals on the matter of the Lemoine Point park in the Kingston area.

Last year, it seemed that the assessments or the evaluations were much below the asking price, and this was the ostensible reason you gave for the lack of development there. From this editorial—I think it was from a Kingston paper—I learned that further work was being done but still there was no decision made on it. Could you enlighten us as to the present status of that land acquisition? Is it still in the discussion stage or is it a closed question now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is certainly not a closed question. We are talking about Lemoine Point, which is about 337 acres with about 8,000 ft of shoreline along the east side of Collins Bay west of Kingston, which comes under the authority of the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority. I indicated last year that we would undertake some new appraisals in view of the escalation of land costs, and this is under way at the present time. We have two of those appraisals now within the ministry, which we are studying and reviewing. We have one more private appraisal to come in and once we have those figures, of course, we will turn it over to the conservation authority for it to make its decision as to its desire to move in a certain direction. The request to purchase the land would have to come from them.

I understand there are some groups who are strongly opposed, as there are those who are strongly for, the acquisition and the development of this particular area as a recreational site. I am told recently that the city council of Kingston has strongly opposed the acquisition of this particular area. We are moving on it and as we get the information we will be taking the next step.

I am told that the asking price has also increased. You will recall that last year the asking price was about \$900,000. The ministry at that time was prepared to go along with assistance up to \$250,000. Rumours are that the asking price has now been escalated to \$1.3 million. It is obvious that—

Mr. Foulds: It sounds like the housing programme.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, that is what happens.

Mr. Ferrier: The longer you delay the more it is going to cost you.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Once we get the appraisals in to us, and once they are carefully reviewed and the authority has the opportunity of looking over them and making its decision, then we will be dealing with the matter further.

Mr. Ferrier: So it is not a closed question.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is not a closed question.

Mr. Ferrier: But it is up to the authority, once it gets the figures, to make a proposal to you.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, they make a proposal.

Mr. Ferrier: You are saying the initiative is there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, once we were assisting them and were prepared to pay a portion of the cost of these appraisals, which we have done.

Mr. Ferrier: But the asking price by the owner would have to be somewhere in the neighbourhood of the value of the appraisals and not something much larger, or otherwise you wouldn't be prepared to—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, if we go to bargaining and negotiation it may well be we will end up, if the decision is to purchase the land, in expropriation. Of course, these figures will be all flushed out then. It would have to be verified and proved that the value was there.

Mr. Ferrier: I think this is all I have for the time being.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Root.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Yes, Mr. Chairman. You probably all know that my area is the father and mother of conservation, the old Grand River commission, where they built the first major flood control dam in the province. As a little history, it was at the opening of that dam when Mitch Hepburn took his first swipe at Mackenzie King and that started to disintegrate the Liberal Party. However, that wasn't what I wanted to talk about.

Mr. Ruston: They are still going strong, John. Don't worry, they are far from dis-integrated.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Root: Now, what I wanted to speak about—

Mr. Foulds: John, it is so unlike you to introduce a partisan note like that.

Mr. Root: It is not a partisan note. This is history.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Root: I am talking about history. They are both dead now.

Mr. Foulds: It is in the historical sense.

Mr. Root: It is in the historical sense.

Mr. Stokes: You are being provocative.

Mr. Root: No, I am just trying to enlighten you about some facts on how these things started. I happen to have about five or six conservation authorities — the Grand, the Credit, the Maitland, the Saugeen, the Nottawasaga—

Mr. Haggerty: How can one member get so much?

Mr. Foulds: All under your personal control.

Mr. Ferrier: You have lots of appointments for the Tories in your riding.

Mr. Root: I don't know whether there is one on the Boyne or not but there is a nice river in the Boyne valley, as the minister knows. What I want to say is that these authorities started on the principle that every municipality had a member on the authority. Now, they are changing the rules they want to have representation by population or some other factor.

The Credit Valley Authority last year wanted to eliminate one of the members from Erin. There was one for Erin township and one for Erin village. They wanted to eliminate two in Dufferin; there were members for Mono, Amaranth and East Garafraxa and they wanted to give them one. I appreciate the fact that the change was stalled until next January but I hope the people haven't been led down the garden path and into something they can't get out of. The planners say you grow at the lower end of the river and that's where the great growth has taken place in some of the best farmlands of Ontario. Now they want to take over and say what you can

do with the water from the headwaters of the valley.

I think as a matter of policy, if they need more votes down there I am not going to quarrel about that. I think there is something in representation by population but I hope you give them more members or votes; don't knock off the representatives of these townships which went into these authorities on the understanding they would have a voice.

The same thing has happened on the Grand where originally there were about 70 municipalities and, I think, about 40 members now. I was at a very contentious meeting in the Grand Valley. The village was flooded when the ice went out—this was twice in three years—and they decided to hammer the representative up there. He said, "What can I do? I am one here of some 40 members."

The bulk of the money of that authority is going for flood control projects and dams downstream to keep the flow of water up in the Grand so that you can dilute the sewage effluent so my friend from Dunnville can drink it. No, I guess you don't; it is Brantford that drinks the water from the river.

This is a matter of policy. I would like to see you take a look at letting these municipalities, which went into these authorities with the idea they would have a voice on what is going on, keep that voice. If you need a stronger voice in the lower end, give them more members. I don't know whether you want to comment on that now.

I believe the Credit one is to come up next January; that's the last word I have. I was talking to the warden of Wellington county, one of the reeves, last night and he said the feeling there was they had a voice and they would like to retain that voice because the water runs out of the hills up there and runs downhill.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think I can comment just briefly, Mr. Root. The strength of the conservation authority has been the involvement, the grass roots participation of the member municipalities to which you refer. I am prepared to have a look at that suggestion. I know what it means in making the conservation authorities so effective and so workable.

Mr. McIlveen: Mr. Chairman, when you are looking at the same thing, you can take a look at the other side of the coin. The city of Oshawa has 11 per cent of the representation on the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority and pays approximately 70 per cent of the expenses of the authority.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's the other side of the ledger. The bigger municipalities put up some figure as high as 90 per cent of the dollars and they feel they should have more say in where the dollars go because it's their big buck.

Mr. Foulds: That is endorsing the principle of buying votes; votes per dollar.

Mr. Root: I can appreciate that but the problem which confronts us is the planners who sit down here in Toronto and say, "This is the Toronto-centred region and you are not to grow. You are in the slow growth area. You are to be the recreation and conservation area to support the Toronto-centred region." They allow the growth to come down here and then they say, "Now we have the growth, we are going to have the say. We are going to run you."

Have a look at it. I don't want to be unfair about this because these municipalities went into these authorities—I believe in conservation and I have supported it all the way through—and thought they had a voice. And they had, until these changes started taking place. We don't mind running nice, good, clean water off Wellington-Dufferin but we would like to have a little say in how the provincial money is spent and how the conservation authority's money is spent.

It was really sometimes a rather rough meeting at Grand Valley. They got into some of the words I used to use when I was head of the Baptists but they were badly disorganized. The flood did damage; the ice jammed on the bridge and put debris all over a farmer's field and when the water went down, he's got to clean it up himself.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): John, would it have been better if he had been one voice among 70 rather than 40?

Mr. Root: No, but there would have been a lot more voices farther north if every municipality had a member on the authority. In fact, I had a deputation down here with Farquhar Oliver when he was here with five member municipalities which wanted out of the authority. They said: "We just pay, we get nothing; up here it all goes downstream." Now, I'm all in favour of the conservation programme but I'd like to see these municipalities, if at all possible, maintain a voice so they can express their views; if you can't win, you can't win. I express my views in the House down here. I admit I don't always win, but I try to live to express them again.

Mr. Stokes: You just want a little democracy.

Mr. McIlveen: Get bigger units.

Mr. Stokes: Just a little democracy.

Mr. McIlveen: No, no. Get regional government and get bigger units.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, we'll have a look at that.

Mr. Root: Thank you.

Mr. Foulds: There is not only rebellion in the Conservative ranks, there is division over there.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty, followed by Mr. Allan.

Mr. Ruston: They are falling apart.

Mr. Root: No, we are a very democratic party. We have various points of view. I just want to give my view to express the point of view of people I represent.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Very well said.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, there are \$10.5 million in round figures there. Could I have a breakdown on the flood control? What does it consist of and where is it going to be spent?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Flood control; I have the broad figure; we'll get into the detail in a moment.

Provincial flood control, \$7,628,000; federal/provincial agreements, \$750,000; dam maintenance, \$350,000; and the Guelph reservoir, \$1,856,000; for a total of \$10,584,000. Do we have any further breakdown on that?

Mr. Foulds: What is the \$7,628,000 again?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The provincial flood control programme. Do you have any specifics on that expenditure?

Mr. Haggerty: There are no special funds allocated for any place along the Lake Erie shoreline, are there? I'm talking about the watercourses that empty into Lake Erie—if any of your staff have been down there looking at some of these sites, particularly where a stream runs out into the lake. The lake being as high as it is, the water cannot empty or flow into the lake. Now, in some of these watercourses or streams there should be some type of a flood control device or system so that water can be pumped out from the other side, from the land side. A dam can be created with a control gate and then water

pumped out into the lake. I saw a number of cases during that air trip that the chairman here took about two years ago. We've seen where there is quite a flood plain back in from the shore caused by the water not being able to drain into the lake. Now, you haven't given any consideration at all to some type of flood control gates there, have you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll ask Mr. Latonnell to elaborate on details.

Mr. Latonnell: We haven't given any consideration to that particular kind of a project that I am aware of. Nor have we been asked to by any conservation authority.

Mr. Haggerty: No, but this is one of the most important functions of the conservation authority, flood control. And I find that they are spending more money for parks than they are actually on flood control programmes.

You can take, for example, the Niagara region. They bought a number of acres of land in the escarpment and it's no doubt for a good cause and that, but you have the province coming in now; they are buying the land along the Niagara Escarpment. There's a duplication of services there, and a duplication of expenditures. I think in cases where you do have the problem of flood conditions along the shoreline of Lake Erie that money should be spent there.

Now, whether you can do it in a joint effort with ARDA or not, I don't know. Have you given any consideration to bringing in ARDA under such a programme with the conservation authorities?

Mr. Murray: Well, sir, as Mr. Latonnell has just pointed out, there has not been any request and this is the only way in which we can deal with it—if it is submitted to the province through the local conservation authority. And the authority in turn must have a request from the individual member municipality.

Mr. Haggerty: I can go back again to the Black Creek situation. I remember a couple of years ago when that whole area was flooded by severe storms. It's good black muck in the area. It's good for vegetable growers, and it was completely flooded out. The conservation authorities were notified of it at that time. In fact, someone came down to look it over; but they haven't done anything on it since.

I am rather astounded that you haven't provided anything in here. Surely there shouldn't have to be requests from individual municipalities. The crisis is there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Haggerty, I'll point out to you—

Mr. Haggerty: In the city of Port Colborne—

Hon. Mr. Bernier:—conservation authorities are autonomous groups. We don't like to set their priorities. If you take that responsibility away from them, you are defeating the whole purpose of their autonomy.

Mr. Foulds: Well said.

Mr. Ferrier: Except for local autonomy.

Mr. Haggerty: If their funds are allocated for some other expenditure, they are not going to go out and spend it on water courses along the lakeshore.

Now there is a problem area that lies west of the city of Port Colborne and it takes in a good number of acres of land. It takes in a good part of Wainfleet township. If you look at it from an aircraft you can see the land is completely flooded. One of the reasons causing it is the high level of Lake Erie. Again, your ministry has allowed a certain quarry operation to go in and remove a sand hill almost to the level of the lake.

Mr. Ferrier: Is that under the conservation authority?

Mr. Haggerty: It is under this ministry. But this is one of the problems that exist without the proper inspection of this ministry. To allow the removal of those sand hills—the good Lord put them there for a reason.

Mr. Ferrier: And the hon. Mr. Bernier took them away.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, he took them away. But they were there. You can't fool Mother Nature that way. They were put there for a reason. The ministry allowed that sand hill to be moved and this is where you have problems. The water comes over the roads and floods out the homes in the area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Maybe we could get something started along those lines. We'll make sure that your comments today are made known to the conservation authorities in the area.

Mr. Haggerty: I don't think anybody has actually taken into consideration at all the high levels of the water on Lake Erie. Perhaps action will be taken when the land drainage committee brings in its report; but

by that time it will be four or five years from now and the lake level will be back down.

Mr. Ferrier: That is a very good committee.

Mr. Haggerty: I don't know what you fellows have been draining, but you haven't been draining water off the land. I shouldn't have put that comment in.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Ferrier: It will be a better province when that committee reports.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is a lot of work going on and Mr. Spence alluded to it earlier—the amount of diking that is going on to protect farmlands and to improve conditions and to stop flooding in those particular areas. The joint programme comes to about \$18 million. So there are a lot of funds going in there.

As Mr. Spence has pointed out, it is a tremendous programme. And I would urge you to go down and see what is going on, because it is very enlightening.

Mr. Haggerty: Go down where and see it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Down around Erieau is a good example to see what is going on. The amount of fill and the amount of protection work that is going on there is just astounding.

Mr. Haggerty: But there are other areas. I know the province has been good, as far as that goes. I know they have constructed a new road at Point Abino.

Mr. Ferrier: They thought they would help the poor out first. Then you come second.

Mr. Haggerty: For example, east of the city of Port Colborne there are some muck farmers, and through their persistence they got the town involved in it. They went out and put in flood control gates across this water course that empties into the lake and they put in a large sump pump and catch basins. It works tremendously well for that area. They can lower that little creek and dump the water out into the lake; and they can use it as a reservoir in the summer.

But on the west side of the city of Port Colborne, where there are two municipalities involved, that's where the problem is. One says, "We haven't got the money to do it

now." And the other says, "We are not interested in it now."

There is a boat club in that area and they've gone in and widened the drainage ditch out a little bit so they can bring their boats up, and that will bring more water back up in there. Again, you see the results of the proper controls. I think the ministry is at fault with this when it allows this type of lakeshore development to occur.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The conservation authorities are very aware of this, and they are right on top of everything.

Mr. Haggerty: I know they are aware of the flood plain out there, but you can't get them to do anything on it, because it will take in one of the quarries of Canada Cement Lafarge. The flood plain is pretty serious west of the city of Port Colborne.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, right. If I may correct—

Mr. Haggerty: If I'm on the wrong vote—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, no—just a thought that you had. You mentioned that the majority of the funds of the conservation authorities was going into recreation. I would point out that over the years about 75 per cent of all the conservation authority dollars has been going into water management. So I don't want to leave you with the feeling—

Mr. Haggerty: I have seen them spend money on water management around Virgil, up around Binbrook and so on, but the rest of the region is just left stripped of everything; there is no money being spent there at all.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I am just talking about the overall expenditures of all the authorities.

Mr. Haggerty: I mentioned Black Creek and the other problem, and I hope that maybe some of your staff here will put a little bug in their ear.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Water management is their big project, and they are doing it very well.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, you try to tell some of these persons over there. I have got pretty poor results from them.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Maybe in some specific instances.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Allan.

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to say a word in support of the overall programme. It seems to me that this is one of the programmes that are good for the province because of the necessary participation of the municipalities and the support with tax money of the municipalities. I think that decisions that are reached are bound to be very sound. It isn't a question of getting something by pressure but because the people who are requesting the support of the government are putting their own money into it. The only complaint I would have is that you don't seem to have enough funds to do the things that are well worth doing, and I think we should do anything we can to encourage the Treasurer to support you to a greater extent.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Thank you, Mr. Allan, for your support.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Foulds: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some mixed feelings about conservation authorities. So many of your appointments are Tory hacks that it sometimes frightens one.

Mr. Haggerty: It was clean until now.

Mr. Foulds: On the other hand, I feel that the conservation authorities are a very good balancing mechanism to the monolith that is the Ministry of Natural Resources. I also share Mr. Allan's belief about the validity and the importance of the local contribution, not only in terms of their tax dollars, which are a very visible and important commitment, but that the expertise they can get locally from the private sector, from various people not working directly for government, is valuable.

On balance I think they are, in capital letters, a good thing.

I would like to ask a couple of general questions about the item for conservation authorities. I gather that the item that is in our estimates book is just the ministry funding for conservation authorities. Could you give me an idea of the total expenditure across the province by conservation authorities? Is there a matching formula involved, whereby you could work that out?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Latornell indicates about double.

Mr. Foulds: About double?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In view of the 50 per cent funding.

Mr. Foulds: All right.

Mr. Ferrier: Are there still some projects that are funded on a 75-25 basis?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, as an example, land acquisition on the Niagara Escarpment involves 75 per cent funding. Some of our dam programmes, I believe, involve 100 per cent; after a \$30,000 expenditure by the conservation authority, we pick up the whole 100 per cent.

Mr. Haggerty: You should be paying almost 100 per cent for land acquisition, because it is for the benefit of all the people, for all the province.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, 75 per cent is a marked improvement from the 50 per cent, and was very well received by the conservation authorities.

Mr. Haggerty: What happened to that provincial maintenance fund, where you have development in a municipality through a subdivider, and five per cent or a certain amount of the value to the land goes back into the treasury? Where does it go from there if the municipalities don't spend it for park purposes?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Latornell? I am not aware of that programme—

Mr. Haggerty: Oh, it's where you have a subdivider or a new developer come into a municipality and set aside five per cent in money or land.

Mr. Ruston: That's municipal affairs.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, it's municipal affairs. It wouldn't be in our ministry estimates.

Mr. Haggerty: No, it wouldn't be in there, but what happens to it after the municipality doesn't claim it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know, Mr. Chairman. It's not under my jurisdiction.

Mr. Maeck: It's transferred to the municipality when a subdivision is registered.

Mr. Haggerty: I thought it was put into a trust.

An hon. member: No.

Mr. Foulds: Before I was so rudely interrupted, Mr. Chairman, I wanted to pursue a line of thought in a philosophical sense on this vote on conservation authorities. I notice from the budgeting within the ministry there is a decline in funding. I am just wondering if that reflects a ministry decline in interest in

local autonomy and the conservation authorities.

I notice that there are other votes that are also decreased, but if you go over to the next vote and contrast that with the increase in recreational areas, for example, within the ministry itself, the increase in the St. Lawrence Parks Commission, I wonder if the ministry is trying to rein in the authority of the conservation authorities and whether it is trying by the squeeze on funds to limit their activities strictly to, say, flood control as opposed to flood control and park development along those flood control areas.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I may just explain, Mr. Chairman, there was about a \$3 million carryover from 1972-1973 that was carried into the 1973-1974 expenditures.

Mr. Foulds: Oh, you carried that over.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We carried it over from the previous year.

Mr. Foulds: It wasn't expended.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It was expended last year. Also, there was a major purchase of the Tam O'Shanter golf course here in Metropolitan Toronto.

Mr. Foulds: Oh, yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do you remember Tam O'Shanter? In the supplementary estimates, it was approved most heartily by the Legislature.

Mr. Foulds: There was some opposition as I recall.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That total is about \$5 million. When you look at the overall programme, you'll see an increase of about \$1 million in provincial flood control. It works out that way. Then we have \$280,000 in this year's expenditures for the setting up of the new conservation authority in Essex county. This is a real step forward.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's all in this vote.

Mr. Foulds: So the major decline in funding has been in land acquisition because of the large expenditure of \$5 million last year.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. That supplementary expenditure was included in last year's estimates. It raises it. Actually it's an inflated figure.

Mr. Foulds: You would classify that really as an extraordinary expenditure?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, that's right.

Mr. Foulds: Then I would like to—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I might interrupt, the administration has increased considerably too. We had some strong requests from the conservation authorities and we were able to get additional funds of about \$800,000 for them which will help them considerably.

Mr. Foulds: Do each of them have a permanent—what do you call them—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Resource manager?

Mr. Foulds: —resource manager now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not every one of them. Mr. Latornell might want to elaborate on the number we have in the field now.

Mr. Latornell: We have 27 resource managers in the field and 38 conservation authorities. The larger authorities have their own administrative staff. We perform various functions from within the ministry and give them various technical advisory services, but the larger ones, as I said, all have their own administrative staff. We concentrate the available complement for resource manager in the smaller authorities.

Mr. Foulds: Fine. I would like to turn from the general to the parochial, which is not unknown in the Legislature, and talk a bit about the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority. Do you have a ball park figure on its total budget? Better yet, do you have a breakdown on its budget that you can make available?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do you have a pencil there and I'll just give it to you.

Mr. Foulds: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Administration, \$43,000; conservation areas—these are capital expenditures—\$100,000; provincial water control—that would be the Neebing-McIntyre land acquisition—

Mr. Foulds: Would Onion Lake and the Current River be included?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, no.

Mr. Foulds: No?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Onion Lake belongs to the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, but isn't the conservation area Onion Lake?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, it is not.

Mr. Foulds: Current River?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not Onion Lake dam?

Mr. Foulds: No, not the dam, but isn't Current River—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Current River, I think it is, yes.

Mr. Foulds: —a part of the conservation authority area?

Mr. Latornell: Not the reservoir.

Mr. Foulds: Not the reservoir.

Mr. Latornell: But the area.

Mr. Foulds: Below the dam then. Is that where their authority begins?

Mr. Latornell: I am sorry I am not personally familiar with it so I am a bit vague in terms of—

Mr. Foulds: I was under the assumption that the waters that drained into Onion Lake and then drained out through Current River were part of the conservation authority area—

Mr. Latornell: Yes.

Mr. Foulds: —although the dam itself is, as I understand, within the direct ministry jurisdiction.

Mr. Latornell: That's right, they've got them.

Mr. Foulds: Fine. Sorry, Mr.—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, that fund was \$66,750.

Mr. Foulds: For water control?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. Conservation assistance and sundry capital. This is for an office building, for \$80,000? We have earmarked funds of \$146,750 in total here.

Mr. Foulds: That's your ministry's contribution, or is that their total budget?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Will I go through those figures again?

Mr. Foulds: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are \$43,000 for administration and \$100,000 for conservation. This is our contribution.

Mr. Foulds: All these figures are your contribution?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, and \$88,250 for provincial water control.

Mr. Foulds: You gave me \$66,750.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, that is what they'll put up, so there'll be a total of \$155,000.

Mr. Foulds: Oh, I see.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sorry, I gave you their contribution. We put up \$500 for conservation assistance and sundry capital. That is the office building.

They will put up \$80,000. I gave you the wrong figures.

Mr. Foulds: I see.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Dam operation, day-to-day maintenance \$500. So we are looking at their contributions of a total of \$146,750.

Mr. Foulds: That's their contribution?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, and our contribution is \$232,250, for a total budget of \$379,000.

Mr. Foulds: Okay.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Very generous indeed, I would say, more than 50 per cent.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, well deserved too—a lot of sparsely populated areas.

I understand they did a flood plain study of the McIntyre-Neebing rivers. There was some talk of diversion between one river and another if it was necessary during a flood period.

There has been a lot of controversy in the city about the building of a department store on the Canadian Lakehead Exhibition grounds which is firmly between the two rivers. I heard the mayor commenting on the radio that they were going to proceed with the development of the Chapple's complex on the CLE grounds. I would like to know if that study is complete and what its findings were, because my own feeling is that's a very shallow area, and very unstable, particularly near the lakefront. I wonder if you have any copies of the study here?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am not aware of it; maybe the staff are aware of this specific inquiry.

Mr. Murray: The study, as far as I am aware, is not complete.

Mr. Foulds: It's not completed?

Mr. Murray: No, and whether or not any development takes place in that low-lying

area depends on the carrying out of this proposed diversion between the Neebing and the McIntyre rivers. That may eliminate some of the flooding in that area and provide additional land for development purposes, but that study is not complete yet and the whole matter will be looked into when we have the results of the study.

Mr. Foulds: I would assume that on a philosophical basis, on a basis of aims and objectives, you wouldn't see it as a responsibility of the conservation authority to take extra steps for water diversion to provide conditions so that a department store can locate in its area.

Mr. Murray: No.

Mr. Foulds: I would assume that would be very low on the priorities of what a conservation authority should be spending its money on.

Mr. Murray: That might be a fringe benefit from the proposed flood control work. There is a flood problem existing now on the Neebing and the McIntyre and the work to eliminate the problem as it exists may, as I say, provide some benefit to this other area.

Mr. Foulds: Both areas are under the jurisdiction of or are the concern of the conservation authority?

Mr. Murray: Yes.

Mr. Foulds: Both rivers and both areas, depending on the conditions at the time of such a possible storm are subject to flooding?

Mr. Murray: Yes.

Mr. Foulds: But you would see that as a fringe benefit and not a—

Mr. Murray: Yes, it is not an improvement that's carried out directly to benefit that area and make it suitable for development.

Mr. Foulds: What is the reason for proceeding with the diversion?

Mr. Murray: This diversion was proposed many years ago, long before this proposed—I believe it is Headway Corp., is it?

Mr. Foulds: No, no. I don't know who the contractor is, but it is the Chapple's store development. I don't believe Headway is involved in this, but it may be.

Mr. Murray: As I say, this was a proposal that was considered a number of years ago and nothing was done at that time simply because of the lack of funds. It has been contained in the proposals from the authority for many years, and to that end I would say that I am almost certain that it is not for this particular development as proposed now.

Mr. Foulds: This is probably an unfair question—

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, it is past 6 o'clock. Would you move the adjournment?

Mr. Foulds: Well, I have—

Mr. Chairman: How much longer would you be?

Mr. Foulds: About 15 minutes.

Mr. Chairman: No, we will recess until 8 o'clock.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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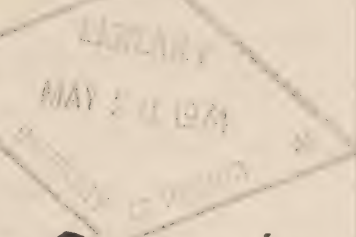
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Ontario



Legislature of Ontario

Debates

Ontario. Legislative Assembly

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Standing Resources
Development Committee 57
Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Monday, May 13, 1974
Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 13, 1974

The committee resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES,
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
(continued)

On vote 2202:

Mr. Chairman: Since we have a quorum, we may as well start. **Mr. Foulds.**

Mr. J. F. Foulds (Port Arthur): There are three more items I would like to explore under this main item. Do I take it that the proportion of the ministry's funding—\$500—for the office building in comparison to \$80,000 which has to be raised locally, is a disapproval by the ministry of the project or is it meaningful?

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): Is it meaningful?

Mr. Foulds: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know.

Mr. Foulds: You have appropriated \$500 for that particular item. Perhaps we could wait a moment until you study the files.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): You must have been to see your tailor, **Mr. Sargent.**

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Thank you; it's an old rag.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): What's the blue tie?

Mr. Sargent: It isn't Tory, I'll tell you that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am going to ask the director, to explain this, **Mr. Foulds**, because I think I gave you some wrong direction on these figures I have before me.

Mr. Foulds: Sure.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It appears that total of \$146,000 is also our assistance.

Mr. Stokes: It wasn't quite as generous as you thought?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: More generous.

Mr. Stokes: Is it?

Mr. Foulds: It's \$146,750?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The total I gave you of \$379,000 is our total contribution to the Lakehead.

Mr. Foulds: That is your total contribution?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Foulds: Perhaps you should turn it over to the director?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, bring some expert into it to explain it.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Are there experts in your department?

An hon. member: Do you know what an expert is?

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, he knows more and more about less and less all the time.

An hon. member: Come on.

Mr. Sargent: What's with the minister wearing the Liberal flower there?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Stokes: Ask him what he is doing with a Tory tie.

Mr. Sargent: I must have been drunk or something to put that on.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It looks good on you, **Mr. Sargent.** It suits you.

Mr. A. D. Latornell (Director, Conservation Authorities Branch): The specific \$80,000 figure is the grant toward the acquisition of the office building, which is a school actually, which they propose to acquire. I don't have the figure of the total cost price but the grant the Lakehead authority gets is a standard 50 per cent or something of this nature plus the supplementary grant which is, I think, about 15 per cent. This figure represents 60 or 65 per cent of the total cost which I think is around \$110,000 or \$120,000. I am going by memory because I don't have it here.

Mr. Foulds: They are acquiring a school, did you say?

Mr. Latornell: It is proposed they acquire a school being put on the market by the Lakehead board. Through the processes of bidding it is still, I gather, in the hoping situation; in other words, the highest bid made by a prospective buyer to the board of education is, I believe, the system under which schools no longer needed by boards are disposed of. The conservation authority has submitted a bid of about \$110,000 to \$120,000.

Mr. Foulds: Is that recent, or is that one of the schools on which they put a moratorium?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You might know more about it than we do.

Mr. Foulds: There was a big controversy around Thunder Bay about selling off a number of rural schools, and I understand that the board has, in fact, withdrawn them from the market because none of the offers came near the price asked.

Mr. Latornell: It could be. The authority made the offer some time ago and the board has not reacted to it. They haven't sold the school, so it's quite possible this is one of them.

Mr. Foulds: You don't have any idea of which particular school is being offered?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's out by the university on the bypass.

Mr. Foulds: Oh, yes, the Oliver Road School.

Mr. Latornell: That's right. Oliver Road School.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: So that \$500 is over and above the \$80,000.

Mr. Foulds: That's your supplementary grant?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Latornell: No, actually the \$500 is for the items here, conservation assistance and sundry capital. Conservation assistance could be assistance for tree planting or for whatever programme the authority wishes to allocate the money. That authority doesn't have much in that kind of programming. Under some other authorities conservation assistance could run into some thousands of dollars. So within that particular item in our budget most of it is for the proposed acquisition of the office building.

Mr. Foulds: I see.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: So we are being very generous.

Mr. Foulds: That is simply because the members keep hammering away and asking questions about the budget. How much of the funding are they putting into recreational land development again? Is there a breakdown on that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have a funding of \$100,000 for conservation areas. That would be, I understand, for recreational areas, too.

Mr. Foulds: And you haven't that figure broken down any further?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I haven't. No.

Mr. Foulds: All right, fair enough.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In fact, I believe they will be opening up one of these—

Mr. Foulds: The Wishart—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, it is not the Wishart—

Mr. Foulds: Not the Wishart area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, the one—the name just escapes me.

Mr. Foulds: Is it on the Current River? The Cascades one?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, it's quite a distance from Thunder Bay. It's a development that the conservation authority has been working on for some considerable time.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. Great Lakes Paper Co. Ltd. gave them the building and they've developed the recreational area around it.

Mr. Foulds: Out at Sturgeon Lake.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's there. I should know the name of it, really. I looked at it—

Mr. Foulds: That is up the old Armstrong road. Is that the one?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No.

Mr. Foulds: Anyway, that's—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will make sure you are invited.

Mr. Foulds: Okay.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it's in June.

Mr. Foulds: Don't make it June 8.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: July 8?

Mr. Foulds: July 8—that would be a good day.

Just two more quick items that I want to check. Does the Kaminstikwia River come under its authority? The erosion along the Kam River? Do you know if there is any increasing emphasis on meeting the threats of erosion along the Kam River by the conservation authority? Is there any emphasis in the programme on that?

Mr. Latornell: There isn't any expressed in this budget. I know the authority representatives from having been up there a couple of times, are concerned about several areas where erosion is occurring. So far they haven't done anything in terms of formulating a programme or requesting grants for it.

Mr. Foulds: The reason I have heard some concern expressed, with perhaps increased traffic up the river connected with the old ford, is that there would be an increased erosion factor against some of the banks. Some of these are very sandy and very susceptible to that and I was just wondering if any advanced planning is being done by conservation authorities—if it is their responsibility—on the island that you know of?

Mr. Latornell: No, it wouldn't specifically be their responsibility in relation to the factors you mentioned. That particular cause up there hasn't been brought to my attention. I have looked at some erosion on one of the streams—I have forgotten which one because I don't know the countryside that well—where a number of dwellings are pretty close to fairly high eroding banks and the authority is concerned about what should be done there and is looking at the problem in terms of considering an inherent study.

Mr. Foulds: Perhaps you could get Ontario Hydro to build a conversion dam.

Just one other question on this item. I wonder if you could explain to me the nature of the financing? Do you have a regular programme that is based on some kind of formula for conservation authorities' grants, or do you simply take a look at each budget they present year by year and decide how much your budget can stand in absorbing their proposals?

In other words, is there a permanent sort of line flow, or whatever you call it, financing method, or is it a population grant, an area grant? How is the financing arrived at? What principles determine it?

Mr. Latornell: The system is a grant of 50 per cent of the cost of any projects approved by the minister for grant purposes and this approval involves the technical aspects of it, whatever they may be, and of course the funding being available for it.

The grants are not approved on a population basis per se except that the larger population areas with higher assessments, of course, have many more submissions for grant purposes.

We don't have any regulation that says that this grant is related to the assessment or population of a particular area in a per se sense. So on top of this, there is a supplementary grant which operates supposedly to assist the authorities that have less ability to raise funds than have some others.

There can be a grant of up to 25 per cent in increments of five per cent, based on a formula which relates to the authorities' present budget, their assessment, their area and so forth.

It gives some authorities a total grant of 60 or 70 per cent. There are only one or two that get a full 75 per cent grant on general programmes. There are other things where all authorities get a 75 per cent grant regardless of sliding scale or assessment or population. The supplementary grant applies to all general grants where the authority within the formula we use merits it.

Mr. Foulds: As I gather, then, your supplementary grant is an attempt to equalize the assessment factors for those more densely populated areas with high assessment value.

Mr. Latornell: Right.

Mr. Foulds: I would suspect that it doesn't quite meet that in a number of areas, particularly if you are, in a parallel sense, also giving—well, let's take the most notorious example: You have spent an extra \$5 million buying the Tam O'Shanter golf course in a heavily populated, high assessment area. My comment would be that although the principle involved is a good one, in practice you are not keeping up with the principle. Is that a fair comment?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that such a purchase as Tam O'Shanter was handled separately. It was not tied to a normal grant formula. The formula that was established with Metropolitan Toronto and the Metropolitan Toronto Regional Conservation Authority was one where we didn't even contribute 50 per cent. I think our contribution was 37 per cent or 35 per cent of the total package; so that it was handled under

a separate formula completely. I would mention that you might look at dam construction; anything over \$30,000—

Mr. Foulds: Over \$30,000?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Over \$30,000, the conservation authorities branch pays 100 per cent.

Mr. Foulds: I see.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is a flat 100 per cent payment right there.

Mr. Foulds: Then, just one final question on the financing. Are you projecting ahead or do you have the conservation authorities project ahead on a five-year basis?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, we just started that two years ago—or this year?

Mr. Latonnell: This is the first effective year.

Mr. Foulds: So you have been planning it for some time.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, right.

Mr. Foulds: This is an attempt to get away from some of the ad hoc-ery of the year-by-year concept.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Exactly right. We had to nail them down on a longer period of time because they were coming up with programmes that were, as you say, on an ad hoc basis. For us to fund them it is better that we have some projection, some ideas as to where they are going. It fits in with the overall government planning with our own ministry. We can slot it right into it.

Mr. Foulds: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Is this vote carried?

Mr. Stokes: No.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Stokes.

Mr. Stokes: While we were on the previous vote, land and water protection, vote 2202, you suggested that flooding and things of that nature come up under this vote because there were funds allocated for it. There is \$10.5 million, but unless it is a real emergency—something that happens on the lower Great Lakes or unless it is something that is under the jurisdiction of a conservation authority—then things just go on as they are.

I am not going to go into it in any great detail, Mr. Minister, but I want you to con-

sider the possibility of providing some kind of relief to people who are adversely affected by flood conditions, by extreme fluctuations in water levels in areas where you don't have a conservation authority. I am thinking specifically of areas such as Lac Seul and Lake Nipigon.

The Ogoki reservoir is bad, but nobody seems to be complaining about that. Most of it is man-made. It is not something that is caused by an act of God. It is not something that happens on a cyclical basis—like the high water conditions on the lower Great Lakes that you get every 10 or 15 years or something like that. This is something that has been condoned by this government for decades, when you consider what has happened around Lac Seul, where we—as a land-use planning advisory committee—are at a loss to come up with any kind of recommendation that would give you any assistance as to the disposition or the ultimate use of that land given the high fluctuations. I am not going to get into that. That is your area.

I am concerned about Lake Nipigon—and I have four briefs here; I am not going to read them. One is from the corporation of the improvement district of Beardmore, one is from the cottage owners around Lake Nipigon, one is from the commercial fishermen and one is from that zone of the Northern Ontario Tourist Operation's Association. We will be presenting something to your ministry and to your policy field when we think that it's something that everybody can live with.

I am wondering what are the possibilities of getting funds. A conservation authority is usually associated with urban areas. The hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin (Mr. Root) mentioned that you have highly concentrated urban areas and then a sort of a mixture of rural areas and that constitutes the area under the jurisdiction and supervision of a conservation authority.

As you well know in the north, if you were to try to do it, for instance, in the Sioux Lookout area, how would they generate the kind of funds to do things that must be done in that area? Getting into the Nipigon area where the total population around the lake and those who are ultimately affected by the fluctuation in the levels would be maybe 6,000 people, how would you set up the mechanism for them to undertake flood plain control, and things that conservation authorities normally do?

Just because you don't have a mechanism and you are not likely to get a viable

organization to undertake that from a financial point of view, it doesn't mean that the need isn't there. There is a great need and it is something that isn't going to go away. I am not suggesting that you say to Ontario Hydro cease and desist, we can do without your generating capacity and you will have to look elsewhere. That's just not realistic. I am wondering if there isn't something that can be done to help.

An alternative or a recommendation has been put forward because of the diversion through the Jackfish River into Ombabika Bay which used to be famous for spawning grounds for pickerel. Now commercial fishermen who had been fishing there for 40 or 50 years say this is practically lost. Somebody came up with an idea at our meeting in Nipigon that you do not divert water from the Ogoki through the Jackfish River but you could do it through another river where the siltation would be much less and maybe we could save some of the traditional spawning beds.

As I say, I am not an expert. I am not a biologist. I am not an engineer. We are looking for answers at this particular point in time. The thing is somebody has to start asking the questions and that's my only purpose in bringing it up at this time. I don't even know the mechanism or, as I say, I don't know the technology of doing these things. I am convinced that we can do a job if we set our minds to it.

You have funds in here for flood control because it's something that's of an emergency nature. It's something that maybe was a result of Hurricane Hazel or cyclical fluctuations on the lower Great Lakes and things like that. This is something that we are causing because of our need for hydraulically generated electricity. I can show you statistics where years ago they used to have 600,000 lb of lake trout out of Lake Nipigon. Last year it was 13,000 lb. The same is true for all species except some of the flounders and the lower types of fish—suckers and things of that nature.

We do have money that's generated there through the water rentals. I am not going to go on at great length, but I wish you would consider some kind of mechanism for trying to rehabilitate something that's important to the economy of that area. As I say, I could go on and read these five briefs. There is some excellent material in them but I am not going to. I will deal with your officials privately. All I am saying is that there is a crying need for this sort of thing when you get pictures like that. There is

merchantable timber under 5 and 6 ft of water.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't mean to interrupt, but I think I—

Mr. Stokes: That whole area there is all cordwood that has blown over. It became water-logged and it is sitting there, just lost to the economy and a total eyesore. There also is a landslide on the Jackfish River which is the one that flows in from the Ogoki into Ombabika Bay. It says here the bank is cut back 200 ft at this point on the Ogoki diversion. Well, obviously you're going to have siltation and, as a result, Ombabika Bay looks like pea soup. I'm going to make copies of all of these briefs available to your officials and I hope that we can come to grips with this problem.

The problem isn't going to go away by itself. It's going to get continually worse and the longer we procrastinate, the worse it's going to get and the more expensive it's going to be to correct it. I suppose too, that technical problems associated with it are going to increase proportionately.

Can I have some kind of an undertaking from the minister that you will sit down and talk with those people adversely affected once you commit your ministry, in concert with others, to dealing with it in a realistic way?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's the key, I think. The submission of your request should be directed to the Provincial Secretary for Resources Development (Mr. Grossman). It's obvious that Hydro is very much involved in this, more so, I think, than my ministry, really.

Mr. Stokes: The thing is that a lot of the values that are being destroyed, you know, fall within the purview of your ministry and that's why I say I didn't—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will certainly play a part in it.

Mr. Stokes: —because you are spending \$16 million on land and water protection. This is what we are talking about and, as I say, I'm not going to go into it in any great detail but I just want to say—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will certainly play a part in it if you get it to there. The Minister of Energy (Mr. McKeough) has completed his estimates, has he not?

Mr. Stokes: Yes, he has.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's too bad. Did you bring it up there?

Mr. Stokes: No.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, it could have been brought up there at that time and—

Mr. Stokes: I don't think he fully appreciates it. I think that it's best brought up in the manner that you suggest and that's in the whole resources policy field.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, and we'll certainly have a go at it there.

Mr. Stokes: He is so preoccupied with defending the major oil companies that he wouldn't really appreciate it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I don't think that is entirely correct.

An hon. member: Would you agree that it's partially correct?

Mr. Haggerty: Is ARDA playing any part at all in northern Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not to my knowledge on flood or erosion control but mainly with our ministry in acquiring lands for forestry development and regeneration and this type of thing.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, ARDA deals with flood controls, too.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Maybe it is an area we could look into if it got to the resources development policy field. It could well be—

Mr. Haggerty: The point I was trying to raise earlier today was that perhaps we should be trying to get ARDA into southern Ontario. I think it works very well—perhaps the chairman could help me on this—in eastern Ontario. ARDA is there but only in certain cases will it assist in southwestern Ontario. Is that right, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Well, actually with respect to drainage, ARDA at one time contributed to the drainage in southwestern Ontario and one of the complaints that we have received is the fact that southwestern Ontario is so conversant with the necessary procedures for municipal drains that very shortly they used up all the funds that were available. Actually, this is one of the reasons why that programme was discontinued there but continued in eastern Ontario.

Mr. R. F. Ruston (Essex-Kent): Right on the nail, Mr. Chairman, right on the head.

Mr. Chairman: Is there any further discussion on this vote?

Mr. Ruston: Well, there are certain controls for Lake Superior and I heard it mentioned earlier on that they anticipated that levels of the lower lakes would be going down. Do we really know how much we can control the levels from Lake Superior? I have been told that it takes 1½ years from the time you change the flow at Lake Superior to affect Lake Erie.

Mr. Foulds: Five.

Mr. Ruston: Five years?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's quite a length of time. As I understand it, Lake Superior is going down slightly.

Mr. Ruston: I have heard it takes from one or two years. Maybe it's longer than two, I don't know. But the lakes are now at the highest they've ever been. They were, as far as I can gather, at the lowest level about 1934. I don't know what happened around the 1940s, but in 1952 they were about the same level as now, maybe a few inches lower—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Ruston: —then in 1964 they were back down real low again, just a little higher than 1934. And now in 1973-1974—I don't know, has anybody got figures from 1934 through to 1952? There seems to be an 18-year span that I haven't been able to find out about—what the level was in the 1940s. I don't know if anybody has—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think we can get those figures for you. I don't have them here.

Mr. Ruston: —found out if the cycle changed in that 10 years or not. There were 18 years there, but I haven't been able to find out what the levels were in the Forties. I know they went up in 1952 and down in 1964 and back up in 1974. So, we had more or less 10 years, from 10 to 12 years. But I suppose we're just guessing anyway, really. It was mentioned earlier as depending on rainfall throughout the whole lakes area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Ruston: But do you have any other basis to go on that it may be on its way down?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We don't have those with us, but we could certainly get them for you. Would you be interested in receiving them?

Mr. Ruston: Well, I would if you had any projections of what might be because it's very interesting.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's really not in this vote; I mean it was something we dealt with some other time. But we can get the information for you.

Mr. Ruston: Thank you very much.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Good.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Just a couple of quick questions on conservation. First of all, what's the position on this Speed reservoir now? Have all the properties been finalized? I know there were some problems with some.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Art, do you have some information on that particular item?

Mr. J. W. Murray (Supervisor, Professional Services, Conservation Authorities Branch): Yes, I'm looking after that, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Okay, John.

Mr. Murray: There are about 70 properties involved in all for the dam and reservoir itself. Now, about 40 of those have been acquired. The authority was unable to negotiate a settlement with the remaining property owners and those lands have been expropriated.

Mr. Good: When will construction be started?

Mr. Murray: They called tenders for the gates for the dam, and also for the general contract for the construction of the dam. I believe the tenders for the dam will be opened on Wednesday.

Mr. Good: The funding has all been approved? It's just a matter of getting the property rights?

Mr. Murray: Yes, the funding has been approved, yes.

Mr. Good: In the rest of the work in the Grand, can you give me any idea what priorities there are to further control the waters of the Grand? It is, I guess, the largest watershed in the province. I think there were some priorities as far as five additional projects within the watershed tunnel, which I think have been scuttled or talked down as not being necessary. What, in the ministry's view here, do you consider the next priority?

Mr. Murray: I couldn't tell you offhand, but we do have this report which was prepared by—are you aware of this?

Mr. Good: Yes, is that recent about McLaren?

Mr. Murray: No, this is a report that was prepared by the management services division of the Treasury Board some years ago. A number of programmes were—

Mr. Good: Is this the one where the Ayr reservoir was high on your list?

Mr. Murray: Yes.

Mr. Good: And where does that stand now?

Mr. Murray: I would have to check this report.

Mr. Good: But recently there's been a lot of controversy about the Ayr reservoir.

The other question I wanted to ask was how the flood control work on the Grand ties in, or in your view, does it tie in at all with the acquisition of additional ground water supply in the area? Or do you people look at the ground water supply for the use of the cities at all in your approving or not approving of works by the authority?

Mr. Murray: Yes, that is a consideration. The plan is one for the total management of the water resources of the watershed, including ground water. There's flood control; storage for flow augmentation; ground water aspects are investigated; and water supply for recreation.

Mr. Good: What I'm trying to get at is, where in priorities of the ministry would the decision be made when the conservation authority said the economic growth of this area cannot continue or enlarge unless we have a larger flow in the Grand River to take our effluent from our sewage treatment plants? To do that we have to have more reservoirs and more dams, which in turn will probably yield more ground water. How is this all tied in? Or do you people just say if you want more water build yourself a pipeline?

Mr. Murray: No, there is a joint committee on which the Ministry of the Environment, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the local conservation authority are all represented. That group will review the various proposals and make a recommendation to the ministry as to what priority it should be given.

Mr. Good: In our area the next five or 10 years are going to be crucial as to whether or not we have to make the jump to a pipeline. If we do—then there is always the prob-

lem that, if we allow the cities to grow, the Grand River is no Mississippi when it comes to taking the effluent from sewage treatment plants. Somewhere along the line someone has to decide what the answer is. And you have a hand in this at present?

Mr. Murray: Yes, we do.

Mr. Good: Okay. The other thing I just wanted to comment on is this: finally, at long last, the new administration buildings were completed this past year.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are tremendous. Vote 2202 agreed to.

On vote 2203:

Mr. Chairman: Item 1. Possibly we should have the minister explain programme administration, and then we will start the discussion.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Are we dealing with outdoor recreation, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Programme administration, yes, and the outdoor recreation programme. Item 1.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This is another very exciting vote.

Mr. Good: Proposed parks, will they be under items 1 or 2?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Under item 2.

Mr. Chairman: Recreational areas, Mr. Good.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will just give you a brief rundown here.

Mr. Stokes: Does the Niagara Parks Commission come under this vote? Or is it an autonomous body?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is an autonomous body.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): We don't get any grants.

Mr. Stokes: Come off it. You probably don't get it out of this vote, but you get grants.

Mr. Allan: No, we get no government money.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No government money.

Mr. Good: Where were you this past year?

Mr. Allan: We will come and see you any time you ask us.

Mr. Stokes: What about the water rentals, Jim? Where do they come in?

Mr. Allan: We get a portion of the water rentals.

Mr. Haggerty: Who gets the other portion?

Mr. Stokes: We do.

Mr. Allan: We get half of the revenue of one million hp.

Mr. Stokes: Yes.

Mr. Allan: That is about less than a quarter of the—you often see in the paper where we get the water, but that's not true.

Mr. Stokes: No, but there really isn't an opportunity then for you to explain—

Mr. Allan: As a rule when you have the committee—

Mr. Stokes: —on government commissions—

Mr. Allan: Yes.

Mr. Good: But that committee doesn't meet any more.

Mr. Allan: We would come any time.

Mr. Stokes: You are here now. Would it be possible for him to give us a rundown?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know if it is proper. We haven't got it listed here, it is not in our—

Mr. Chairman: It is not in this vote.

Mr. Ferrier: Maybe he could invite us over to Niagara Falls some day and give us a tour and explain it.

Mr. Allan: I can do that if you want to.

Mr. Haggerty: You mean the drainage committee missed that place?

Mr. Stokes: I know it is out of order, but the Niagara Parks Commission is sponsoring projects that other people could learn from.

Mr. Allan: We would be glad to get together with you and go over them any time, Jack. We report to the Minister of Natural Resources and do pretty well what he tells us.

Mr. Stokes: That's why I say there should be an opportunity even though there are no funds.

Mr. Haggerty: There is only one fault I can find with it, Jack, and that is that they don't have a member of the opposition sitting on the parks commission. That's the only

fault I can find with it. They have them all over the area, but from Welland South.

Mr. Stokes: People talk about the Niagara Parks Commission, but they don't know anything about it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have the St. Clair Parkway Commission here and we have the St. Lawrence Parks Commission which report directly to us.

Mr. Stokes: I am not suggesting this as though we have asked Mr. Allan—

Mr. Allan: We would be very glad to appear whenever you ask us and try to tell you the story.

Mr. Good: They get money and Niagara doesn't get money, that is why.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, that is the reason. They are an autonomous body and their only sources of funds are hydro rentals and water rentals.

Mr. Foulds: Mr. Chairman, I have a suggestion that might meet with approval or not. Perhaps, as the commission does report to the minister, we could ask to discuss it at the end of the minister's vote, if that is acceptable.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll ask the chairman.

Mr. Allan: Anything, anything.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, we could do that. We could do it maybe in conjunction with the St. Lawrence Parks Commission.

Mr. Allan: I think it would be better after. Our annual report is almost ready to be distributed.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Is it proper to do it in the course of these estimates or not? This is the part that I am not sure of.

Mr. Chairman: No, I don't think it would be, actually.

Mr. Stokes: Maybe you could do it with Mr. Grossman on the resources development field.

Mr. Allan: No, I think if you ask us to—

Mr. Ferrier: Perhaps there could be a special meeting some morning.

Mr. Allan: But I think there would be some advantage to having the annual report before the committee.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Before, yes.

Mr. Chairman: I think Mr. Ferrier has the best idea, if we have a meeting some morning.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Fine.

Mr. Haggerty: In Niagara Falls.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We might consider that. Okay?

An hon. member: The committee you say?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, the committee.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Mr. Chairman, I would like to know just what they do with that beautiful water that comes off my riding going down the Grand. Now Mr. Good tells me he uses it to move the sewage effluent.

An hon. member: Send it down. We need more.

Mr. Root: Everybody else pays for their sewers. The payments are amortized over 30 or 40 years.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Minister, would you give an outline of programme administration? Item 1, 2203.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: As you can see we have salaries and wages \$708,000; employee benefits \$70,000; transportation and communications \$102,700; services \$135,000; supplies and equipment \$20,600; transfer payment to the St. Clair Parkway Commission, municipal parks assistance, grant to the Vermilion Bay Vacation Area Ltd. \$47,000.

Mr. Stokes: What riding is that in?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It happens to be in the great Kenora riding. \$47,000.

Mr. Chairman: Well represented in the Legislature.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: A total of \$2,081,000.

An hon. member: Well represented in the ministry.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask—

Mr. Sargent: Just before you go on that, could you give a grant to the Grey-Bruce Vacation Area Ltd. for \$47,000. What is the Vermilion Bay Vacation Area Ltd.?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This is a non-profit organization in Vermilion Bay and anyone who has been through on the Trans-Canada Highway—

Mr. Stokes: With grants like that they don't need any profits.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I hope you have been through that area.

Mr. Foulds: Several times.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is a development of a tourist complex and information centre. The federal government, through their LIP grant, contributed something like \$30,000 in their winter works programme. They got it started and then we have contributed.

Mr. Haggerty: Does the Provincial Secretary for Social Development (Mrs. Birch)—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I am sure she does.

Mr. Ruston: Margaret objects to them, you know.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The thing is, the annoying part about it—well not annoying—but it only half completed the project. Then they chopped off the LIP grants.

Mr. Ruston: They get you fellows started, then—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, they started it. They started it.

Mr. Ruston: Yes, that is what I mean. They get it started and then you fellows follow along with it. They got the initiatives.

An hon. member: And then the programme is dropped.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, and we take all the credit for it.

Mr. Sargent: This isn't a ski area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, no. It is just to deal with the tourist traffic.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask of the minister questions on the St. Clair Parkway Commission.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, that's right, we are in this vote.

Mr. B. Newman: All right. I have noticed in the annual report that it is quite a substantial undertaking. It certainly does look very exciting. I wanted to ask of the minister if he is considering the extension of that commission? He can recall in years gone by where councillors throughout the tri-county area have recommended that there be a blue water highway. As an answer to that the ministry decided on a St. Clair Parkway Commission.

Has the minister given any thought now to the extension of that, so that it could go around, not only along the St. Clair River, but around Lake St. Clair, sort of bypassing Wallaceburg so it wouldn't interfere with the normal operations of the town and eventually going down to Amherstburg and the continuation there into the Talbot thoroughway?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I think it is fair to say, Mr. Chairman, that we have considered the possibility of looking at the Talbot Trail, as a commission, as a further development. We have also looked at the possibility of studying the feasibility of a Huron Parkway Commission. I had hoped that we would have some funds in this year's budget for that. However, I regret to say that it was not of high enough priority, at this point in time, to be included in this year's estimates. I think I released a statement to that effect about three or four days ago.

Mr. B. Newman: Are you working with the conservation authorities in the area so that they could at this stage be purchasing properties along the lakeshores to assist you later on in the development of the extension of the St. Clair Parkway?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think we could do that at this point in time because there is no commitment to develop a commission, either at Huron or the Talbot Trail. Until we get a feasibility study as to the possibility, and get some commitment that we would develop those two commissions, it would be ridiculous to vote on a land-purchasing scheme. I think it fair to say that we are experimenting with the St. Clair Parkway Commission at the present time. It is the only one of its kind in Ontario, and the feeling is that we would like to get that one really functioning—as I said on many occasions, operating on all eight cylinders—before we embark on another programme of such ambition.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, I can understand your concern, Mr. Minister. My concern is that if we don't move a little faster, there won't be properties that we can purchase later on, and if we do have to expropriate, it will be beyond our financial ability to expropriate. The properties are increasing in cost so dramatically, and have increased in cost so dramatically, over the last few years that you know, Mr. Minister, if your ministry—well, it wasn't your ministry, it was Lands and Forests—had followed the recommendation that the city of Windsor made back in 1958, you could have had

6,380 ft of lake frontage on Lake St. Clair, assessed value of \$8,000. Right next to that you could have had 5,600 ft of frontage, assessed value of \$43,000. This presentation was made by the then chairman of the city-council metropolitan beach committee.

You see, if we keep waiting on a lot of these, it gets to the point where we can't afford them later on. I don't think the price of properties is going to drop in the near future, especially in the tri-county area where you have the big dollar that is carried in the deep pockets of our Americans to the north of us. They are willing to buy almost anything, at any price, as long as they can get hold of it. So, I am concerned, Mr. Minister, that unless we start taking steps now, that property is going to be lost forever.

I can recall the Ministry of Lands and Forests in the days when the late Kelso Roberts was the minister. I had asked him to purchase Peach Island. Under no circumstances were they going to buy Peach Island in 1965: "We'll never buy Peach Island, it is too small." Who owns Peach Island today? You people do. You could have had it for a song then. You paid some \$400,000 three or four years ago for it. It will be the same thing if you don't start moving today. I get disturbed, Mr. Minister, at the slowness with which we act at times. I know you will always tell me it is a matter of priorities and you know, I have to accept that type of an argument—to a degree. But I am very much concerned that if we don't lay plans now, it will be too late later. If you believe at all in the Doxiadis report concerning the megalopolis that is going to develop from Minneapolis on the west right through to Montreal and Quebec on the east you will know that we will have one great big city. The tendency is to go that way and, if you believe in that, we are certainly going to be very, very short of parkland and we can't double-deck parkland like we can highways.

It does disturb me, Mr. Minister, I would certainly like to see you either by yourself or in co-operation with conservation authorities plan to purchase properties that are still available along the lakeshore so that we could develop something similar to what you have in the Sarnia area.

We clamoured at one time for a seigneury—that is, an early French Canadian village in the River Canard area. The Ministry of Tourism and Information at one time was interested. They conducted a study. The University of Windsor, under Dr. Greenwood, also conducted studies as to the feasibility of a seigneury.

But we seem to have had no action on the part of the minister and, as I said earlier, I'm very much concerned that if we don't act now we are going to expropriate at a price that, maybe, we really can't afford then. Can I get some input from the minister now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I realize your concern and I think it is fair to say that we share it. But I just have to relate that there are only so many dollars available. We have programmes established and while I hoped that we would have funds to start a feasibility study of at least one of those this year, I regret that it didn't fall into the priority bracket that maybe you and I would have liked.

In fact, I met with a very ambitious group that presented me with a very good proposal, something that would have required \$25,000 to \$35,000 as initial input. But we felt at this point in time that it didn't have the priority until we get, as I said earlier, the Lake St. Clair Parkway Commission off and running. I think once that is going, with the experience we gain from it, we will be in a better position to assess which direction we should be going.

Mr. B. Newman: I really think the concept of the St. Clair Parkway Commission has proven itself. I think in the eyes of the ministry and in the eyes of the public it is something that is really worthwhile. Maybe, it isn't needed as much today as it will be needed tomorrow, but at least you are preserving it and you are holding it—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. B. Newman:—so that future generations can really make use of the area and what you have done there. But what I am really interested in is an extension of that and I'm afraid, Mr. Minister, that your ministry isn't even studying the concept of an extension.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is certainly in our system. In fact, I would have to say to you that there is a request from the Kingston area to look at a similar proposal.

Mr. B. Newman: You have the Upper Canada Village concept out there and that is a nice thing and I like to see that. Now, all you have to do is put in something like that so we can come along and have tourists see both ends of the province.

I'm not so much concerned about Americans coming over there because they have their own attractions. Naturally, the hospitality industry is very much concerned. But

I would prefer first to sell Ontario to our own people; to have them see the beauties of the province and see what can take place and what has taken place. We could look forward into the future as to what are the potentials of the properties along an international waterway, just as you are doing in the St. Clair commission.

Has your ministry studied the possibilities of a seigneury along the Detroit River area, around River Canard? It was one of the first French settlements in lower Canada if that's what it's called in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I checked with Mr. Keenan and he said we have not done so at this point.

Mr. B. Newman: Would the ministry look into the potential of a thing like that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'd look at it, yes. We'd get a feeling for it and find out the reaction.

Mr. B. Newman: Would you give me a commitment on that, Mr. Minister, so that next year I can ask you that question again?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. Mr. Keenan just tells me that we are embarking on some very ambitious historical studies of such areas like that right across the province, to find out what areas we should be developing and putting our emphasis on. It could be in next year and it might be at least down the road on that particular one.

Mr. B. Newman: You know, Mr. Minister, how long I have heard that story?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Historical studies are something we haven't even embarked on yet. We are just starting this year.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, maybe your ministry hasn't embarked on that but we have heard that story from other ministers for many a moon now.

Mr. Haggerty: And the point is—a point here and there, with a lot of bull in between.

Mr. B. Newman: The thing is, we would like to see a little more speed. The slowness with which you are moving in that direction, Mr. Minister, is sort of a little scary.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: All I can say to the hon. member is that we will certainly have a look at it in the historical studies that we will be doing this year across the province.

Mr. B. Newman: I am not going to press it any more, Mr. Minister. I hope I have laid

the seed with you so that your officials can look at the thing. Spend a few dollars in there using some of our university students on one of your summer employment programmes so that they can see the potential or study the potential of something similar to what I have mentioned, or maybe something completely different and unique. When you look across the river and you see Greenfield Village, the Ford Museum, and you see the tour attraction that it is—not that I am saying this is a tour attraction only, I prefer the historical approach to it better—when you see what they have done there, naturally I can't come along and say that you can do that because with Ford Motor Co. and its hundreds of millions it is a little different story.

Mr. Foulds: Well, we can get it through Inco.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, well, we have Ford Motor Co. back in the Windsor area which could possibly throw a few millions into a thing like that, but I think it would take the good nature and the convincing abilities of the minister to talk to the Ford officials to ask them to go on a joint ministerial and company venture in the development in Ontario, something on the line that I have made mention, so that it could complement their development in the Detroit area. So I ask you, Mr. Minister, to have your officials look at it. Be serious about the thing. I think it is going to be something that our future generations will thank us very much for if we start on it now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Thank you for your comments.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman, since the minister and the hon. member for Windsor-Walkerville were engaging in a debate about the possibility of developing historical sites and this kind of thing, I think I should get a plug in for the proposal that the city of Timmins has presented to the government for quite some time now. I realize that the work is being done under Industry and Tourism, but what the chamber of commerce, with the endorsement of the whole community, has done is to suggest that there be a museum or a centre established to depict the natural resources industries in the north—the mining and the wood products industry and hydro generation on a simulated basis.

This year you are going to pull \$68 million more out of the north in resource taxation, so I think it is about time that you began to think seriously about putting some

more money into the north, specifically the northeast, in terms of a project such as has been presented by the chamber of commerce group in the city of Timmins. I have to say that they have shown remarkable ingenuity and imagination. They have had some support from the Ministry of Industry and Tourism, but for goodness sake don't tie all your prospects for the northeast into that Maple Mountain project. Put it in for something that is going to benefit the people as a whole.

This is only one of a number of projects that should seriously be considered. I would think that something that would depict the industries of mining and forest products on a simulated and sophisticated basis, right in the area where these are carried out, would provide some tourist potential and would perhaps bring people from other parts of the province to see right in the immediate area where the main industries associated with your Ministry of Natural Resources are carried out.

I hope that in time this proposal that is being made will get to the secretariat of Natural Resources and that you will look rather favourably upon the proposal that is set forward. I think that from a historical point of view and from a recreational point of view, tied right into the Ministry of Natural Resources, there couldn't be anything that is of more value or more significance.

In this programme administration, I wonder if I could deal with two items, one of which would be the setting of the dates for hunting and fishing and so on.

Mr. Chairman: That would come under fish and wildlife, Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: You'd rather put that under fish and wildlife. Well, what about the matter of Ontario hunting and fishing licences?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The same one.

Mr. Ferrier: That would come under fish and wildlife too? I don't know what generally would come under this programme administration.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would like to comment on what you've just spoken about, if you wish.

We are very much aware of the proposal of the Timmins Chamber of Commerce and their desire to set up a natural resources centre. Industry and Tourism has a consultant working on it now. They have asked

us for our input from a ministry point of view and we are working closely with them. So we are very interested.

Mr. Stokes: They'll call it the William Ferrier Natural Resources Centre.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I understand it is going to be the Wilf Spooner Centre.

Mr. Ferrier: I don't care what it's called as long as we get it. I certainly cannot claim any credit for the original idea. It was—

An hon. member: Liberals?

Mr. Ferrier: No, it was a group of people in the chamber of commerce who probably are Conservatives.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll call it the Spooner-Ferrier Centre. How will that be?

Mr. Ferrier: As I say, I don't care what you call it but I've got to say that it's just an excellent idea. I'm not sure but I think the architect who has drawn it up is Stewart Smith. If you've moved in Conservative circles, you'll know he is one of the vice-presidents and the president of the Timmins riding association for the PCs.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He must be a very able fellow.

Mr. Ferrier: John Huggins is also very much behind this and working on it. It has some noble people who are sponsoring it. I'm delighted to lend my voice to it and glad to see that you are pursuing this matter.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we are.

Mr. Ferrier: I haven't seen in a long time such an imaginative and an excellent idea to tie into an area and to promote something of real value for adults, children and the whole area. As I say, I will be pleased with whatever you will do. If that can come to fruition, why it's a feather in many people's caps.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll certainly put our input into it.

Mr. Ferrier: Good.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are going to deal with the minister's policy on parks purchasing. Would land acquisition be in there too? I guess it would be.

Mr. Chairman: No, that would be under recreational areas.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Recreational areas, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: This is the decision of the ministry here. This is what I am more concerned about.

Mr. Stokes: You are going to talk about money, aren't you?

Mr. Haggerty: Oh, I am going to talk about the money increase, yes. It has increased in the recreational areas by about \$5 million. And this is the point that I am going to come to.

Mr. Chairman: I think that that would be best under recreational areas.

Mr. Haggerty: No. This is the decision of this ministry here. I'll read a letter here perhaps.

Mr. Stokes: Are you challenging the Chair?

Mr. Haggerty: I am challenging him, that's right, yes.

This letter from the Ministry of Government Services addressed to myself says:

Re: Withdrawal of expropriation of part of lots 34 and 35, broken front concession, Lake Erie, township of Bertie, and lots 1 to 7 and part of block C, registration plan 92, township of Bertie, proposed provincial park, Point Abino. Office file: PP6938.

It goes on to say:

I wish to advise you that the Minister of Government Services for the Province of Ontario, and successor to the Minister of Public Works, have withdrawn the application of approval to expropriate lands made in respect of the captioned property.

You may recall that a notice of application for approval to expropriate land was mailed to you in July, 1969. That notice was subsequently published in the Welland Evening Tribune on July 19, 24 and 31, 1969.

The Minister of Lands and Forests, in his capacity as approving authority under the Expropriations Act, received a number of requests for public hearings to determine whether this proposed expropriation was fair, sound and reasonable, necessary to the achievement of the objectives of the expropriating authority.

Before this hearing could be convened, Dr. J. H. Marcy asked for, and was granted, a private hearing before the Ontario Parks Integration Board. At the meeting the board held in August, 1969, Dr. Marcy presented a forceful case against the taking

of all of the lands owned by Marcy Properties Inc. for park purposes, and the board agreed to reconsider its position.

Subsequently, the board recommended that negotiations be undertaken by the adjoining property owners to acquire land for the development of a park in conjunction with a part of the Marcy property. These negotiations were carried out over a period of time but proved unsuccessful and were abandoned. The board then recommended that the park project be abandoned, and this was done.

To resolve any doubts you may have concerning the government's intentions, I'm sending you this letter to confirm that the Ministry of Natural Resources has abandoned its plans for a park on the Marcy property, and therefore the need for expropriation proceedings no longer exists.

Yours truly,
J. W. Snow.

The minister may recall that the previous Minister of Lands and Forests (Mr. Brunelle), with the aid of their great colleague from Welland (Mr. Morningstar) made an announcement in September 1968, I believe, that the government was going to purchase land in the township of Bertie, in Welland county, and this was the site chosen.

But with great respect to this minister, I think it was deceitful of this government to lead the people to believe that a park was going to be purchased over a period of years, only for them to find out later that all proceedings had been dropped.

I would like to have some answers as to why it was dropped. In talking to land owners in the area, I was prompted to write the letter to the Minister of Government Services, asking why he wasn't continuing with the planned programme. The land was frozen from 1969 to almost 1974, and then they dropped the idea of expropriation proceedings.

The letter says you almost cancelled it in 1969 following the hearing with Dr. Marcy, and yet that land was frozen for about five years so that the people in the area couldn't sell. Many of them were retired farmers who wanted to sell their land but couldn't because the Expropriations Act was held against their properties.

You led the people in that area to believe that you had good intentions of purchasing that land for a park site. You made a further recommendation that you were going to purchase mini-parks, and that fell through for some reason. It was just a game to play with

the people in the area, where you said: "We're going to get you something down there."

With this next election coming up, I don't know how you are going to handle it. As long as you take this action of being deceitful to the people in that area, I'll be back in here for another four years.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think there's any thought of being deceitful at all. I might call on Jim Keenan, who is the executive director, division of parks, to give you the background and to tell you where we are going on it. He has all the details.

Mr. J. W. Keenan (Executive Director, Division of Parks): Mr. Chairman, we've looked at a number of possibilities for parkland acquisition in this area, as I think Mr. Haggerty knows. We certainly were most interested in the Point Abino property and did, as you say, proceed to the extent of an expropriation order on it. There were some problems associated with it. We're still, I would say, interested in that property. The land use isn't changing at Point Abino. We have had some limitations in funds. We ran into problems with the cost of the cottages developed in that area, which are very high. And we are still hopeful of acquiring lands in that area. We have been acquiring them in other locations. We've added a considerable acreage at Rock Point, immediately to the west. And we are now in the process of putting money into that development in order to make better utilization of the considerable resource that exists there.

So, as far as that part of Lake Erie goes, we're aware of the problems, with respect to beachlands and park open space. And at this time, while we withdrew the expropriation order on the property, we certainly have not in any way given up the thought of still acquiring lands along that part of Lake Erie.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you taken into consideration that you would still have an option on that in case the owner was to sell it? As I understand it, he's getting on up in years right now, and the family has very little interest in land over here at the present time. I'm sure he would have sold the property if you had gone in and made an offer from the start. But to go in and apply expropriation procedures killed it right there. I know the conservation authority has been in to see him on different occasions. It's mentioned in one of its reports that this property should be a park. The report of Dr. Jackson, who made a study on lakeshore property and

beaches in that area, indicated that it should be park. The Niagara regional official plan indicates that it should be a park. I think there's every indication that this is a most suitable site for a park.

Perhaps you have withdrawn it, but I would like to see something—even an agreement with the owners that indicates that if they're going to sell, we would like to have the first option to purchase. I think this is a fair procedure to follow.

I think you made a commitment to the people in that area that you would purchase a park in that area. I think you should live up to it.

There have been other lands available along the lakefront, as I indicated to the chairman of the Niagara Parks Commission, Mr. Allan. He more or less agreed and thought that a more appropriate body, such as the Ministry of Natural Resources, should be buying a golf course—a nine-hole golf course east of Ridgeway. There are about 700 or 800 ft of lakefront property there that wouldn't be sandy beach, but it would still be along the lake.

You could have bought that for about \$250,000. It was a paying proposition. It could have paid for itself within ten years. But yet you come out to Toronto here and buy a golf course out in Scarborough I believe it was for how many million? Thirteen million dollars or something like that? And then you're going to buy another one down around Burlington? And for \$240,000 or \$245,000 you couldn't purchase a golf course there and on lakefront property? Reports and studies have been made on that particular area to the effect that one one-hundredth of an inch of lakefront is available to the people who live there. I just can't accept your views in not following this up. And I think if you went at it the right way, and, perhaps, if you had consulted me in the first place, it might have made it easier for you, too. But you made the announcement and you played politics with it right down the line. I don't know what you are going to do with this next election. You are going to have to come up with a new gimmick. I don't know what it's going to be. Maybe he is going to buy us the moon.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If you want to meet with the staff and go over all the proposals that we have had, and if you have any suggestions we would be glad to have them.

Mr. Haggerty: I have seen suggestions from the county council of Welland. They have

made recommendations to this government here for the last 10 or 15 years for a park in that area. Sure, you have continued to expand the one at Rockpoint. You have constructed a new park up around Tillsonburg. I recall just the other day I received a flyer on it and very few people use it. I know all about the Shorthills—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Shorthills, I am sure you are proud of that one.

Mr. Haggerty: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am sure you are proud of the Shorthills one.

Mr. Haggerty: Oh, yes, sure. But that was about 15 or 20 years too trying to get it together.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You have a new minister now—

Mr. Haggerty: How many acres, by the way—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —with enthusiasm and aggressiveness.

Mr. Haggerty: How many acres are involved in that now? Is it 1,200 acres that you actually own? And you are talking about expropriating another 400 acres?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There hasn't been a decision—

Mr. Haggerty: Is this going to be purchased by just going out and buying it on the general agreement, or are you going to put the axe over their heads and say, "We are going to take it"?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Keenan tells me that we have expropriated 400 acres of the Bramalea property.

Mr. Haggerty: The Bramalea property? They have that pretty well optioned from Hamilton right down to Niagara Falls, haven't they?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They have quite an area, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: They have quite an area. They are waiting for that scenic highway to put up on top of it so that they can get into the development in that area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It could be.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, they have been into that for the last 10 or 12 years.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If you want to sit down with our staff and look over the proposals, we would be glad to have your input.

Mr. Haggerty: There is all kinds of land there available, lakefront property, if you want to buy it, you know. There is a site there, about 20 acres, right there at Point Abino, the Kreisler property. I suggested that to Mr. Brunelle here a couple of years ago. The price was \$90,000. They had a beautiful home on about 20 acres right on the lakefront. You couldn't buy parkland any cheaper than that. You would almost have another Maple Mountain.

Mr. Foulds: If you really want to court disaster.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Stokes.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, I want to ask Mr. Keenan, through the chairman, what is the state of the CORDS and the TORPS programmes which you people hung your hat on here two or three years ago? I think that if your outdoor recreation programme is going to be meaningful at all it's going to have to be based on the surveys that were taken several years ago in concert with, I think it was, the federal government and the Ministry of Industry and Tourism. You got the habits of people who had recreational dollars to spend, tried to find out where they were coming from, the kind of recreational outlets that they were looking for, how you were going to use tourism and recreation to direct people to areas where you had something for them to do. With the advent of more leisure time, people are going to have to be entertained.

Mr. Sargent: Right on target.

Mr. Stokes: A lot of them want to hunt and fish. Some of them want to look at our history. Some of them want swimming and boating. You name it, there will be somebody who will want to do almost anything that you can find for him to do. So how are you going to project, with this increased leisure time, what people are likely to be looking for? How are you going to accommodate them so that we in the province can not only maintain our relative position with regard to the number of tourist dollars that we are going to attract to Ontario, but attract it to areas where it is needed, not only on a seasonal basis but to the greatest extent possible on a full-time basis?

We were told three to four years ago that this was the kind of approach you were going to take so that you know the direction to go to provide the greatest economic benefit while satisfying the needs of the majority of people who were looking for recreational outlets. What has happened to CORDS? And TORPS? Where is it now? Have you changed

your thinking since you started using that as a guideline for the future? Where do we go from here?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask Mr. Keenan to fill in the detail with regard to the CORDS. We are working out the terms of that agreement with the federal government in setting up a structure. We are well down the road in reaching an agreement with them. One has to realize that this particular structure is unique in Canada. You have three levels of government involved: the federal government, the provinces and the municipalities—as well as the conservation authorities. There are a number of units. We are working out a structure that is reportable and acceptable to both sides. Hopefully we will be making some firm commitment and give you some direction within the next month or two. We are that close to an agreement.

Mr. Stokes: It has taken that long?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, it has. We have been working diligently with the federal government. As I said earlier, the uniqueness of this structure makes it difficult even in the reporting procedures when you get two or three levels of government involved.

Mr. Stokes: Have you done any work with Dr. Klopchic from the Ministry of Industry and Tourism who did a lot of this work?

Mr. Keenan: That is on the TORPS. I am talking about CORTSS.

Mr. Stokes: I see.

Mr. Keenan: That is a different one. That is the Canada-Ontario Rideau-Trent-Severn Study. The CORTSS programme. It goes from Ottawa right through Georgian Bay. It takes in that whole corridor down the Trent-Severn-Rideau system. We are working toward a ruling on that. The other one you are referring to is the TORPS, that is, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Planning Study. This is their interim report. I think you have seen that.

Mr. Stokes: No, I haven't.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We can get you a copy. It was released in August. This is the first report.

Mr. Stokes: I will avail myself of them with great fanfare and—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Some fabulous information has been gathered over here.

Mr. Stokes: If you give us a preview then maybe you can short-circuit a lot of these questions.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We can get you copies tomorrow.

An hon. member: And bring them in tomorrow?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we have extra copies.

Mr. Sargent: Along the same line as—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Keenan might have some more technical information to give you on that but we will get copies of that report for you tomorrow. There is more going on in this ministry than you think.

Mr. Stokes: If you hide your light under a bushel you are going to be prudent.

Mr. Sargent: That will be the day.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think Mr. Keenan had it. If you want to elaborate a little further.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Chairman, if I may respond briefly to Mr. Stokes. This is the first interim report of the TORPS, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation Planning Study, Ontario recreation survey. This has been a year-long household survey which I think it is fair to say is the most comprehensive recreation survey carried out in North America.

Mr. Stokes: That is what I was looking forward to. That is what I was told it would accomplish.

Mr. Keenan: I believe there is a second progress report being prepared now which will pick up another three months of the survey. The final reports on the survey, that is the presentation, in essence, of the raw data or the tabulated material will be some time this fall. As I say, this is a very comprehensive survey and I think you would find on examining it that it will provide us with much of the information we've been so sorely lacking over the years, in terms of the very broad spectrum of what people do and what people want to do, to give us some direction in our planning and projecting for recreational facilities.

You also made reference to CORDS, which is the Canada Outdoor Recreation Demands Study. This was initiated through the federal-provincial park conference which is an association of all the park agencies in Canada. It was concerned, on the broader scale of the national picture, with outdoor recreation demand and how we might co-operate and, to whatever degree possible, integrate our efforts among the many governments providing recreation to serve the needs of Canada

as a whole. CORDS is a national survey and there's work continuing with that.

TORPS is a specifically provincial survey. I might say it's one that many other agencies are very interested in for copying in their own jurisdictions, we feel this will provide us, as I've said before, with important new information, updated information, comprehensive information for recreation planning. With TORPS we went through a period of model building—using modelling techniques—and certainly one of the uses of this will be to feed directly into that to test our capability, in a mathematical sense, to simulate tourism and recreation in Ontario.

Mr. Stokes: Yes. I've two brief things. Are you planning to use this information in a way that will be a tool for development in areas where the options are very limited? I don't think you want a million people roaming the streets of Toronto if it's possible to direct their attention and to interest them in other areas of the province where, as I say, the options are limited.

I'm wondering in association with that, are you doing it on a year-round basis rather than, say, a three-month basis during the holiday season? People have more leisure time and transportation is not the problem it once was; distances are becoming shorter and shorter as a result of new modes of transportation. Are you concentrating your efforts on places where you can provide viable tourist enterprises on a year-round basis? If you're going to make anything out of Minaki, for instance, you can't do it on a three-months-a-year basis.

If you're going to recover the money that Industry and Tourism has spent on the ski slopes in Thunder Bay, you're going to have to gear your recreational programmes to that kind of market. As I say, I'm talking about using it as a tool for development rather than having it on a strictly seasonal basis, and doing it in a way that will provide maximum economic stimulus to areas which need it so badly.

Mr. Keenan: Yes, Mr. Chairman: I think as you know, Mr. Stokes, the TORPS project has involved a number of ministries: Industry and Tourism; Natural Resources; Transportation and Communications; Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs; and Community and Social Services. One of the main principles of the project, in addition to certain factual information which will come out the end of the pipe, as it were is the integration of the efforts of the many ministries that have an impact on recreation and tourism.

I can say quite definitely that one of the principal objectives is the development of integrated policies and integrated programmes for recreation and tourism in the province. I can also say very positively that the programme is concerned not only with summer recreation, but with recreation year-round. Information has been gathered on people's recreational habits and preference for the entire year. It's certainly intended that we look at year-round recreation and year-round tourism, rather than just concentrating—as was noted—on the three summer months.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Sargent.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Along the same line, I would like to agree with Mr. Keenan that year-round attractions for people in an area are most important. I think, Mr. Minister, you have shown no greater intensity of land acquisition than you have in the Grey-Bruce area. Could you tell me your acquisition programme this year? Saturday night I was talking to a group from the peninsula at a meeting and I understand that you are buying land now. Is that right? Are you still buying land?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. I think we are. We have land acquisition dollars for the —

Mr. Sargent: What is your target there? Is that fair question? How far are you going to go?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: On the Escarpment, in total?

Mr. Sargent: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right now we have selective and complete control of about 89,781 acres at a total cost of about \$32,500,000.

Mr. Sargent: At \$32 million?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: You have bought 89,000 acres?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am sorry. That is the total acreage recommended by Gertler. Up to March 26, 1974, we had actually acquired 32,560 acres.

Mr. Sargent: On the whole Escarpment?

Hon. Mr. Ferrier: On the whole Escarpment, yes.

Mr. Sargent: What's in the Bruce; is that broken down in the Bruce?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The Bruce is 18,571 acres.

Mr. Sargent: And how much money?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't have a number on that, Mr. Sargent.

Mr. Sargent: What is your target? How long is this going to go on?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are working with the Gertler report and our own subsequent report, because there have been some additions and some deletions to the Gertler report. Eventually, of course, we hope to gain control of about 90,000 acres.

Mr. Sargent: A total of 90,000 acres.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, now just one point; I think there is a little bit of confusion here. There is feeling in the Bruce that we are going to make a massive park in that particular area. That is entirely wrong. There will be general recreation areas. There will be areas with unique features—general hunting areas, wildlife management areas and fishing areas. I think it is fair to say that there have even been some rumours that we are going to build a massive national park in the Bruce.

Mr. Sargent: That's good, I mean—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There have been discussions, but we have not taken any further steps with the federal government since the 1960s on this. It is going to be a combination of—

Mr. Sargent: Anybody got a map of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: If I may I'd like to pinpoint what I'm trying to say.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sure.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Minister, if you look at this map of Ontario—

Mr. Foulds: That's southern Ontario.

Mr. Sargent: Southern Ontario, yes; I'm sorry. See the elephant, see the trunk down here in Windsor?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: Do you see the feet down in Toronto, and the elephant's tail in Owen Sound?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: What are you trying to tell me, Eddie?

Mr. Sargent: We are in a good starting point.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Sargent: Every time we get a group to Owen Sound, an American group, I bring that map out and show it so they will remember Owen Sound. That is impact. We are that part of the world, you see.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Very well put.

Mr. Sargent: But what I am trying to say is this. We are within 2½ hours of a market of 20 million to 25 million people—Detroit—the whole area from Rochester right across to Chicago. And my hotel is booked solid all winter with skiers from Port Huron, Detroit, Buffalo, the Michigan area and even as far as Illinois. But there is nothing for them to do when they get up there. There is no Maple Mountain in the market in the Bruce area.

Now, that is where you should be spending your money—like in Maple Mountain. I know it isn't your project. But you are building parks and there is nothing in them. All those people play golf. The fact is that people come into the area, but there are no holding factors. They keep on going. The big challenge we face—you collectively, the government with Industry and Tourism—is to keep the tourists longer there. Reduce the proportion of those passing through the community so that they stay and spend some money there; buy gasoline, meals, and stay at some of the lodges.

The fact is that you have nothing in your parks to hold them, outside of camping. I appreciate what your assistant has been talking about insofar as a year-round programme.

Mr. Haggerty: Move for \$5 or \$7 green fees.

An hon. member: That's what you want, Ed.

Mr. Sargent: Yes, okay, but I mean the minister is sitting there. One time, Leo, I was green in this House and I came up with a bona fide policy. I talked the then Minister of Lands and Forests into what I wanted done for my area. The minister said, "Yes, we'll do that." But a couple of the brains trusts—it wasn't any of these fellows; it wasn't Dr. Reynolds—couple of these aides like these gentlemen here said, "No, we are not going to do that, Mr. Minister." And they made the decision.

I would like to think that the input from the people is important. I would like to tell you, sir, as representative of all that area, that we go along with what you are trying to do, but acquisition of lands and parks is nothing unless there is something there for

people. There should be a close liaison between your department and the Ministry of Industry and Tourism; there is no liaison at all at this point. We just have parks. You put up the gate and say "Here is a park area."

I think you should put a major golf course on the peninsula. There is no golf course north of Port Elgin; in 120 miles there is no golf course of more than a par-three deal.

Mr. Good: There is a cow pasture in Wiarton.

Mr. Sargent: Wiarton has a small airport. But those people should be encouraged to give an 18-hole deal. I got a phone call today from Illinois. In Illinois the government is bringing out maps, Mr. Minister—fishing maps that show the lake levels in colour, graded lake levels for fishermen. Every lake has maybe 10 different colours. It shows that every different colour is a level in the lake. For fishermen. Follow me?

Mr. Good: Depths.

Mr. Sargent: If a fisherman goes out in this lake he knows what the depth is. And it is beautifully set up. I'll have that map for you. I'll give it to you next week to show you what I am talking about.

Mr. Haggerty: Show them the lake.

Mr. Sargent: And we have fish too.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I might just comment on those remarks.

Mr. Sargent: One more thing. You are a pilot and you don't know what the need is for airports—small airports. You have closed down the Tobermory airport. You had a chance to buy it for peanuts last. I put it through one of your departments and I got a "No" on it. That is the most valuable asset on the peninsula, and you have closed it down.

Mr. Stokes: The federal government must have closed it down.

Mr. Sargent: No, these people had a chance to buy it, as a landing strip. It's a good strip. They've got about 3,000 ft there, north and south; the prevailing winds are northwest and southeast. It's a good strip and it should be acquired because a lot of people fly up there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Who owns it?

Mr. Sargent: I got the file out. He owns an island up there, and he has been paying taxes on that island. You won't let him build

on the island, you won't let him sell it, yet he has to pay taxes on it. That's one you should check into. There is need in the whole Province of Ontario for an air map. There is no map of Ontario showing airports. Every state in the United States has one showing airfields, seaplane bases, airfields that cross the state and landing strips beside the highways.

But most important, there are very few lighted airports. I got a whole pack of stuff I would like to give you on that. There is a need for an airport programme to develop small airports, but we do need that airport in Tobermory.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am certainly interested in the airport suggestions you have made, but we have no funds and my ministry is not involved in the development of an airstrip programme. It's the Ministry of Transportation and Communications. Those were good comments and I am going to make sure that my colleague, John Rhodes, gets them.

Mr. Sargent: We put it through your department.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have no control over any airports. That's not my ministry. The highways-in-the-sky programme is with the Ministry of Transportation and Communications.

Mr. Sargent: Okay.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But I will make sure that Mr. Rhodes hears of it, because I think your idea is good. If I could just comment briefly on your concern about the lack of proper facilities in the Bruce. In the last three years we have embarked on a very ambitious programme. Our first priority is to acquire the lands. Once we have pulled together the land we require, we can get on with the job of developing.

With regard to golf courses, up to this time, we have left that pretty well to the private sector to develop.

Mr. Sargent: Could you put some in your parks?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In St. Lawrence we have a golf course, and St. Clair.

Mr. Haggerty: That is what is carrying that parkway—that golf course.

Mr. Sargent: I was down there last year. My wife and I went through that Niagara parkway and that is the finest credit to the Dominion of Canada. It's a beautiful thing and there should be something like it up north. That golf course is beautiful.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I suggest we take a look at it in that area. There is a lot there we should be looking at it.

Mr. Haggerty: The next Liberal Premier will do that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have the master plan completed for the Tobermory underwater park.

Mr. Sargent: Yes, but the average guy can't get his—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's different. It is the first; it's unique.

Mr. Sargent: For one per cent of the population, it's unique. It's great and it's a plus, but it doesn't affect people. It's only people who have got the bug for that. It isn't a mass media thing.

Mr. Stokes: The former deputy was a scuba diver.

Mr. Sargent: It is still a good idea.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Eventually the general public will be able to go down and walk around in the big glass tubes that they have got planned. It should be quite exciting.

Mr. Foulds: All you need is one or two and down you go.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are on the track. I realize that there may be some concern about not moving quickly enough and I share that view because recreation, as you correctly point out, is—

Mr. Sargent: Well, you have got the physical plant there for a beautiful recreational area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Good.

Mr. Good: I just want to comment on this Bruce Peninsula. I have been a summer resident up there for about 18 years.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Beautiful area.

Mr. Haggerty: He knows it all.

Mr. Good: The Fathom Five Park is a great idea. If nothing else I hope it will be able to put restrictions on taking artefacts from all the shipwrecks out of the country. Before it was impossible. The nearest receiver of wrecks was in Parry Sound. It was only under the federal Ministry of Transport that you could have any laws or teeth in keeping all the stuff. About four years ago—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We had our first conviction under that last year in the provincial parks.

Mr. Good: Oh, did you? Good. I would be interested to know how you control it now? Do you set aside the underwater area as parkland?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have our own patrols from the provincial parks branch and the OPP.

Mr. Good: What regulation do you use?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The Provincial Parks Act.

Mr. Good: That's fine, because five years ago on a good summer holiday weekend there were about 500 divers on the weekend up in Tobermory.

Mr. Sargent: I went down there last night.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are going to accelerate our control over the divers. They are coming in there in great numbers this year. Mr. Sargent should go up there and see that.

Mr. Sargent: Oh, yes, I know. I was there at the christening. I know Ray MacInnes very well.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Let's go for a dive this summer, you and I.

Mr. Sargent: That is the Cape Canaveral of Canada.

Mr. Good: It is one of the three places in the world where you have clear water and a concentration of shipwrecks — the Carib-bean, Tobermory and I guess the Strait of Juan de Fuca, out by Vancouver. So that is great.

The other thing I want to ask you about is Bruce Peninsula Park. Let's take a minute to explain. We had a proposal for the extension of the Conestoga Parkway in Kitchener-Waterloo area, going north. It's already approved for four-lane controlled access about five miles north of the twin cities. Now they are going to extend it to join up with Highway 86 through Elmira. Eventually this was to go up to Palmerston and up to Southampton and lead to the Bruce as a four-lane controlled access road.

Mr. Pask from the Ministry of Transportation and Communications made this statement—and I argued with him—at a public meeting about two months ago that, because of the report from Natural Resources that the land they had acquired on the Bruce Penin-

sula will not be used for high intensity of gathering people into that land, there's no need for a four-lane highway. They have downgraded this whole thing north of Kitchener and it is just going to be a widening of the present road.

The plans for a four-lane highway to Southampton and up to the Bruce has always been part and parcel of the development. I'm telling you the Bruce is now developed compared to what it was 15 years ago and there are a number of people there. But Transportation and Communications say they have a report from you people which says there won't be many people on Bruce Peninsula. We've acquired land but we're downgrading the idea of bringing people into the Bruce. Consequently, they have downgraded this highway idea, and I'd like to know what's going on.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Keenan, our executive director, parks division, is not aware of that report. It must have been before his time. Maybe somebody should resurrect it and bring it up to date, really.

Mr. Good: No. A year ago Transportation and Communications was planning this four-lane thing. The feasibility study is going on now up as far as Palmerston, and from Palmerston it was going to Southampton. Suddenly out of the blue like that, they blame it on you that the whole thing is down to this widening of the present two lanes.

Mr. Haggerty: You have big shoulders.

Mr. Foulds: It is the same reason they stopped Spadina.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's news to our director.

Mr. Sargent: It's a 1990 programme. That's what they've got on the boards.

Mr. Good: No. I'll show you the correspondence I've had with the ministry on it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'd like to see it, I really would.

Mr. Good: At the public meetings in St. Jacob's they said they are giving up the idea of keeping this as a direct controlled access. For about the first six or eight miles out north from Kitchener, that part will be so, but from there on they said the future convertibility is not very good on what they are doing now. They said because of the reports from Natural Resources the concentration of people in Bruce Peninsula will not be nearly as great as what we had expected a few years ago.

I think that's tommyrot myself, because there are just more and more and more people up there all the time. They are building homes and cottages like you wouldn't believe. People are retiring up there.

Mr. Sargent: In spite of the government.

Mr. Good: I would like to know what is going on. You claim that no such report has gone to Transportation and Communications on that? I'm going to get their letter to me.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would like to have a look at that, yes.

Mr. Good: I questioned it and I got an answer back from them, and I'll see that you get that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Fine.

Mr. Good: That's all I want to say on that. Parks is under the next vote, is it?

Mr. Chairman: Yes. Does item 1 carry?

Mr. Sargent: One more thing.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are on parks now.

Mr. Sargent: I'm lost in the policy.

Mr. Good: I thought we were on item 1.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We've done half of parks.

Mr. Sargent: Mr. Minister, on the land acquisition policy, I just missed a point. You are going to continue to buy land?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: How much?

Mr. Chairman: Is this under parks?

Mr. Sargent: No. I am on the same thing I was talking about before.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think our eventual goal would be to reach what was recommended, at least to a point.

Mr. Sargent: The Gertler report is the minister's Bible, is it? He said he was following the Gertler report.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: To a point. We have done it on a selective basis. The conservation authorities, Mr. Sargent, are also purchasing land. So with that combination, we should eventually end up with about 90,000 acres.

Mr. Sargent: You say 90,000 acres—and you have 18,000 acres now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: About 30,000 acres altogether have been purchased, I believe—not including the conservation authorities.

Mr. Sargent: So then you are only a third of the way along in your programme?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Keenan says that the conservation authorities have purchased about another 20,000 acres, so we are up to about 52,000 acres.

Mr. Sargent: Who says you are going to buy another 40,000 acres?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's in the overall plan, the Gertler plan, which has been revealed publicly. We have had discussions with the various municipalities. They are well aware of the plan.

Mr. Sargent: All right, hold up—

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, but are you committed to that?

Mr. Sargent: That's right. Do you think that a fellow can write a report in 1971 or 1972 and commit the future of that part of the province for generations?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, the Niagara Escarpment Commission now is of course having a very big input—

Mr. Sargent: Well, I don't agree with that a goddam bit.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, it's there; and we have to touch base with it, because it was established to look after the escarpment.

Mr. Haggerty: In the Niagara Escarpment Commission, under the Act, why did you—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's not our Act. The Niagara Escarpment Commission is under TEIGA.

Mr. Sargent: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes. But it is under that section though, is it not? Referring back to the Shorthills park, that there are other development plans outside of that that come under TEIGA, which pretty well ties them in with some of your proposals.

Mr. Sargent: Well, does the Niagara Escarpment Commission govern what you are going to purchase?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Would you say that again?

Mr. Sargent: Are you going to go your own way or are you going to work in line with the Niagara Escarpment Commission?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We touch base with them all, Ed.

Mr. Sargent: All right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: So they all have an input.

Mr. Sargent: This is most important: You happen to know where you are going; the people up there don't know what land you are going to buy. Why can't we know what you are going to buy?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we have discussed it with all the municipalities. We have had men going up and down that peninsula, meeting with the various councils and letting them know what we are doing.

Mr. Sargent: I talked to the reeve of Lindsay township on Saturday night, and he said you have got men still buying up there. Under whose direction?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, it would be under our direction. We would give the directions to the Ministry of Government Services.

Mr. Sargent: All right. Why don't you give us a programme of what you are going to buy?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We can't. We give it to the councils.

Mr. Good: Do you buy it as it comes up for sale or do you have certain lands set aside?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, we take the ones that come up for sale first if they fall into the overall plan, which has been fully discussed and is available within our ministry. In fact, I tabled it last year in the Legislature, I believe. The member for Scarborough West (Mr. Lewis) brought it up. We tabled the whole package, the maps and everything. They are available, if you are interested. We can give them to you.

Mr. Sargent: So you know what lands you are going to buy now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: I would like to have that. Do they all have that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: Every council has it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We make it available to them. We discuss it with them.

Mr. Sargent: Well, it's funny that they are concerned about your acquisition programme.

Mr. Good: What they are concerned about is that the Parks Act doesn't give them as much revenue as they would get from normal taxation.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, there is that concern; and I think it's fair to say that the Treasurer (Mr. White) has made a commitment—

Mr. Sargent: Could I get a map from Mr. Keenan of what you are going to buy up there, a map of your acquisition programme?

Mr. Keenan: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: I would appreciate that and copies of the TORPS and CORDS reports.

Mr. Keenan: There is no public report on CORDS, but there is on TORPS.

Mr. Sargent: Could I have a copy of that?

Mr. Keenan: Yes.

Mr. Sargent: Thank you.

Mr. Stokes: Before we leave administration, I would like to inquire about the status of the land that you turned over to the federal government. If you haven't already done so, there is a letter of intent with regard to Puckasaw, where they are going to make a national park. I know that there's no money in this for you, but could you give me a progress report as to how far along you are with your negotiations with the federal government and when we might expect that the federal government would be in a position to go forward with whatever they are going to do for the Puckasaw area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We haven't had that much involvement during the last several months, because we are actually waiting for the federal government to resolve their issues with the Indians and the Indians' rights. That's where the issue stands right at the moment. It is tied up between the native peoples and the federal government.

Mr. Stokes: Well, is it their right to land or their rights to maintain their treaty and aboriginal rights?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I think it goes beyond that. They have put quite a list of requests to the federal government should this national park go ahead—the development of a certain community atmosphere within the area and control of certain access points, the supplying of certain services and facilities.

Mr. Stokes: Involvement by the native people in the operation.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think one of them was all time health services, or something, for ever and ever and a day or something. There are several issues that they are working out with them.

Mr. Stokes: Have you, though, in fact, turned the land over to the federal government?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Per se? No, we have not. But the letter of intent and agreement was signed by my predecessor and the hon. Jean Chrétien. I was talking to Billy Salt just the other day—at least, my executive assistant, Bill Morris, was talking to him—and I think they are in Ottawa this week following up their discussions. There are discussions going on between the federal people and the native people.

Mr. Stokes: And you haven't been asked to get involved?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, we haven't been asked to get involved at this point in time.

Mr. Foulds: Do you expect a federal announcement within the next two months?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I expect there may be.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 1 carry?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Just as an off-the-cuff remark, I gather that they are prepared to make certain concessions to the native people.

Mr. Stokes: There is no sign of another park?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. Let me make that very, very clear. We have not entered into any further discussions with regard to a national park.

Mr. Stokes: I can tell Bob Andrews, then, if I see him?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, you can, very, very clearly. If you don't tell him, I will.

Mr. Chairman: Item 1 is carried.

We'll go on to item 2, recreational areas.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have got that lot finished, too. That's all we were talking about.

Mr. Chairman: Recreational areas. Mr. McIlveen.

Mr. C. E. McIlveen (Oshawa): I want to comment on Algonquin Park and the leaseholders in Algonquin Park.

Mr. Haggerty: We discussed that. We passed that.

Mr. McIlveen: Well, this is on recreational areas. Who have you been talking to, yourself?

Mr. Haggerty: No, we have discussed it here all day today.

Mr. McIlveen: Well, I have a letter and I want to read one part of it into the record:

If leases must be terminated and our cottages burned, can I influence you to agree with me that we should all be treated alike?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We don't burn cottages.

Mr. Stokes: Not intentionally.

Mr. McIlveen: It goes on:

Some are deprived by the mere chance of taking out a lease two or three years earlier or, later than his neighbour from 10 to 20 years of occupancy. It seems only simple justice that leases should all be kept on until the last one has expired.

I would like to say if you buy them out, they should be bought out and at the end of the time they would get nothing when the final day, which is—what is it, 1995?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is 1996.

Mr. McIlveen: Well, it would be better if they were all terminated on the one day rather than when their lease is terminated because as this letter states, a difference in one or two years of taking out that lease can mean 20 years of occupancy for the tenant or the lease-holder and that really isn't fair.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, let me point out to you that in 1954 the policy was clearly stated that each lessee would be entitled to one further 21-year renewal. Notices were sent to every lessee in Algonquin and in Rondeau Park, also. They were well aware of the policy established and all we have done, at this point in time, as late as about a year ago, is reconfirm the policy that as the 21-year renewal expires, it would be the termination of the lease.

Mr. McIlveen: But hasn't there been a great change in vacation property of Ontario in that time and in what would be a valid argument for extending the lease at that time? Certainly, the ball game has completely changed now.

Mr. Foulds: We need more public land now.

Mr. McIlveen: Sure we need the public land, but what difference does it make in the

span of time, whether it's in 1988 or in 1996?

Mr. Sargent: Right.

Mr. McIlveen: Every leaseholder should be treated exactly the same.

Mr. Foulds: That's right. When his lease expires that's who is—

An hon. member: Oh, yes, they are.

Mr. Foulds: That's exactly right.

Mr. Ferrier: They have had a lot of notice about this.

Mr. McIlveen: But they are not. It depends when your lease was taken out.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. McIlveen: One year difference in the lease can mean 20 years in your occupancy. If it was taken out in one year, it would terminate in 1986, and the next year it would terminate in 1996, depending on what the leases were at that point of time. What I feel is that as far as the province goes we should terminate those leases at the end.

Mr. Ferrier: Why not at the beginning in 1986 then? And do it all at the same time.

Mr. McIlveen: Well, you can't—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Bring them back 10 years.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes.

Mr. McIlveen: And make them all sooner? Well, if you did that you'd be treating them all fairly too. But I would suggest that rather than treating up their earlier date, in the span of time it really doesn't make any difference whether it's 10 years or 1986 or 1996, except to those people who are occupying that land.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But in 1954 when the policy was established, everyone was given the right of one further 21-year renewal, so everyone was treated equally and fairly. If you had five years left on your lease it meant you had 26 years left; and if you had one year left, it meant you had 22 years left.

Mr. McIlveen: Yes, but, Mr. Minister—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Now we have gone down the road so far, everybody thinks that you're not being treated fairly because those leases have been transferred to other people. Those people who bought cottages with 10

or 15 years left on the leases were well aware of the government's decision.

Mr. McIlveen: Mr. Minister, I would suggest that in 1954 and in 1955 there was no fear of the lease not being extended by the time they were through. They didn't really foresee the shortage of cottage property in our northland. If I had foreseen what was going to happen, I would have owned half of the north.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Somebody must have had some foresight back in 1954.

Mr. Sargent: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The powers that be and the men that sat around these tables—

Mr. Sargent: That was the Hepburn government, wasn't it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —had the foresight to see this pressure coming on and to give these people a chance, knowing well that in the year 1996 pressure on public lands would be fantastic. They had to phase them out evenly and fairly.

Mr. Foulds: Right.

Mr. McIlveen: Well, I don't agree with you. I think that if they had, those same people would have been buying cottage land in other places because it was at a very reasonable price in 1954 and 1955.

Mr. Good: So were the leases.

Mr. Ferrier: It seems that a lot of people don't take the government seriously when they announce something. Maybe they should.

Mr. McIlveen: Maybe they should what?

Mr. Ferrier: Take the government seriously when they are told they are going to give them one more renewal and their lease will then be terminated. The government very clearly told them what they were going to do. If the people didn't take the government at its word, you can't fault the government.

Mr. Sargent: You are in bed with them now, are you?

Mr. Ferrier: Well, surely if the government states a policy—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Sargent: They don't need any help from you, Bill.

Mr. Ferrier: Surely if the government states a policy and is consistent with that policy,

and the people have had lots of notice and warning, you can't fault the government for flip-flopping. They are just being consistent and you've got to give them some credit.

Mr. McIlveen: Bill, I agree with you that we shouldn't fault the government. I am all for that.

Mr. Stokes: Now you are flip-flopping.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order.

Mr. Good: In 1968 there were leases on Conestogo Dam and the conservation authority said to people with land: "If you don't build this year you have to give it back."

Five years later they say, sorry, we've changed our policy, now we are going to expropriate your cottages when your lease expires. So government policy does change, let me tell you.

Mr. McIlveen: This is exactly what I am trying to say. In 1954 you could put out a 21-year lease, but—

Mr. Ferrier: That is the conservation authority, that's not the government.

Mr. McIlveen: —all of a sudden, when those leases come up, I am quite sure those people felt their leases would be renewed. All I'm saying is that in 1996 they all terminate; wouldn't it be good to terminate them all at one time, and if anybody wanted to get out sooner than that pay them for their land proportionately or supply them with other land they could go to?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There are many cottagers who have given up their land or have sold knowing full well they only had a few years left on their leases. I'm sure if they had known they'd be allowed to go to 1996 they would have remained there.

Mr. Sargent: How many has that happened to?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do we have the number of leases we have picked up?

As a matter of information, while Mr. Keenan is getting that information, right now there are 370 leases in good standing in Algonquin Park; 280 of these are in the names of residents of Canada. In Rondeau Park we have 372 leases, of which 224 are in the names of residents of Canada.

Mr. Haggerty: How many camps are there that you are going to allow to continue? Boys' camps which are—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The boys' camps, as was announced in the policy for Algonquin Park, would be allowed to remain indefinitely. In addition to this, we have established for the first time—

Mr. Haggerty: How many of them are American boys' camps?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Two of them. We've established the special camp subsidized by the government of Ontario for those underprivileged.

Mr. Sargent: On the retroactive policy on the docks, how much money are you talking about? How many people are involved in surrendering?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There's no money.

Mr. Sargent: How many people are involved in surrendering?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We don't have the information right at our fingertips. We can get it.

Mr. Sargent: Why couldn't you go along with this policy? It's not going to hurt anybody.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is going to hurt those people who have already given up their leases.

Mr. Sargent: How many have?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know. We'll find that out.

Mr. Good: In 1996.

Mr. McIlveen: When you do find that out can you also tell me when the leases terminate? By 1996 you're still going to have some of them there; that whole area is not going to be public, you're going to have private development on it. I can't see for the life of me how it would hurt to leave them all in effect if they want to, and/or buy them out now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We're prepared to buy them out now if they want to terminate their leases.

Mr. McIlveen: That's right and I—

Mr. Good: You buy their leases but not their buildings?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we pay them. If they give up their lease at this point in time and have X number of years left in their lease it's prorated.

Mr. McIlveen: Do you have a programme whereby you can supply them with any Crown land or any land which it would be appropriate for them to develop?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There are summer cottage lots available, maybe not in that specific area because we are going to expand the satellite operations.

In fact we've just come out with some new maps on Algonquin Park. You might be interested in looking at these. One is of the canoe routes; it shows all the canoe routes and all the various spots on them. It's a very interesting one. They're worth \$1 apiece, but you can have a look at it.

Mr. Foulds: Pay your \$1.

Mr. Ferrier: Are you going to give it to us for free and then we'll sell it for \$1?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would give it for your own personal use. Maybe we could have the young fellow—he's not here any more.

Mr. McIlveen: Have any of these leaseholders been offered other land and/or any project; or is there any way the government will sell them other summer cottage property?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In this case, when they were given the leases originally a lease at that time was not a title in fee simple, it was a renewable thing. I'm sure they knew the day would come when the government of the day felt this should revert to public ownership. This is the reason titles were not given at that particular time. Had titles been given it would have been a different thing and we would have to expropriate them. Now we're letting the leases expire and just kicking them out.

Mr. McIlveen: Here's a letter from one of them and I already have a reply from you on it. Most certainly she never expected that lease to expire.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The information was given to them and it is likely she is one of the individuals who picked up a property which had X number of years left on the lease. This has happened in several cases. A lot of these people picked up the leases on their cottages with the hope that the government would not implement its plan as announced in 1954. I think that plan is very safe. It really is.

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, on the other hand, have you looked at some of the

areas—the ones where you have bought one cottage and you have a vacant lot in with the other cottages and where you have leases extending for another 20 years? You have a lot which is of no use to you. That's particularly true down in Rondeau.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: These open areas, of course—

Mr. Allan: I have been hearing you talk about people. You, being such a charitable—

Mr. Sargent: Sock it to him, Jim!

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. McIlveen: I would like to know what was wrong in having all the leases expire at one point in time.

An hon. member: We have to come to defend the minister.

Mr. Sargent: Jim Allan jumps the traces.

Mr. Stokes: You southerners just don't grasp the situation, that's obvious.

Mr. Allan: No, we are not hard-hearted like some of you.

Mr. Stokes: We are trying to protect the values we have in the interests of everybody in Ontario.

Mr. Haggerty: —along the Niagara River.

Mr. Sargent: Listen to the socialist talking.

Mr. McIlveen: And in the same way you would probably force me to sell my cottage.

Mr. Ferrier: You must have sold it.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Foulds: For the member for Oshawa, special privileges.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ruston.

Mr. Ruston: Mr. Chairman, I only wanted to ask a couple of brief questions. I suppose one you are expecting from my area is about Tremblay Park. I'm sure your officials are aware of the problems we have had there. I might just up the snapshot for the minister and his officials outlining the problems we have.

Mr. Foulds: This is a real audio-visual committee with slides and maps.

Mr. Ruston: Of course you know what happened there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Where is our sign?

Mr. Ruston: There is a sign out on the post along the dikes of the west side, I think, where we have it diked up. As interesting as it was, though, I will say in 1969 when the former Minister of Lands and Forests viewed it with some of his officials, it was a very nice looking park and beach. But the high water—

Mr. Chairman: Order please.

Mr. Sargent: Order please.

Mr. Ruston: There is a lot of noise in here. I don't know if it is me or not.

I understand, Mr. Minister, that there was a clay bank or berm or something put up along the front of the park a little more than a year ago, and of course the storm of March 17, 1973, took it away and flooded the whole park. The thing that concerns me—and I know it would be a great expense to try and dike it, which would almost spoil the park; I'm not sure what system should be used—but what concerns me now are the trees. I'm just wondering how long will trees like this stand with water around them indefinitely? When we looked over this area, the minister at the time, Mr. Brunelle, I'm sure fell in love with it. The day we saw it there was a beautiful sandy beach. The trees were just beautiful. But what concerns me now is the lifetime of these trees underwater. Probably people in your department would understand this more than I would. Are your plans perhaps to wait until the water goes down, or are you going to experiment with them in the meantime?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll ask Mr. Keenan to comment. He is more knowledgeable than I am.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Chairman, it is certainly an area we have had considerable problems with. The trees have their roots and part of their trunks well under water. Willow trees will probably stand this for two or three years, if it is just a simple problem of submergence. I think the great problem there is that of erosion, cutting out the soil from around the roots.

As you know, we made an attempt to construct a berm there to hold back the water. The water broke through on at least two occasions, I think. It became a real problem and the trees, of course, are immediately on the shore. I am afraid we will lose some of those trees along the shoreline because of the roots being washed out, after which they will be toppled over by the wind.

Mr. Ruston: I realize there were problems there last year, and I appreciate the action of the ministry in assisting the municipality. You might be aware that we had some discussions with your ministry, and they agreed to put a dike on the west side to protect the farm land and the cottages.

But there are people who have had property on the lake front for years, and their forefathers too. Some of them, including the lady who lives in the old Trombley family home on the park property, always had the impression that by putting berms out at a certain angle to the lake shore, and not parallel to it, that the continual action of the lake would build up sand in certain areas.

There are a few cottages along there that are still using this system and seem to be getting by without putting in any breakwater, although many of them are of course, putting in a straight steel wall. But there are some cottagers who have used this system and it seems to have worked fairly well. I don't know if this might be the answer.

It would be a shame to spoil the whole frontage by just putting a steel breakwater along there. That's not good either. But the trees are really of great value, and I am sure they will be there for 100 years if we can just get something around them to protect them. But I don't know what the answer is in the meantime.

Mr. Keenan: Sir, the intent was to construct a grass berm there that would be compatible with a park, as opposed to a breakwater, which would certainly separate people from the beach. The high water and the storm damage have severely eroded the sand, which was the basis for the beach there. I am not an engineer, but I think we are reasonably confident that the sand will return to the area when the water levels come closer to normal. As this occurs, I think we will be using whatever engineering techniques that are available to us to speed up the deposition of sand in that area so that hopefully it can be made into a park as soon as possible.

Mr. Ruston: Very good then. I think I will leave it. You are aware of the problems, and so are the people in the area. It was a friend of mine who has assisted the ministry who sent me that colour picture; I hadn't talked to him lately, and I thought it was an interesting picture of the park.

Now, have you ever considered or had representation made to you for the possible acquisition of other parkland on Lake St. Clair? There was another property in that

area, about halfway to Windsor, around 95 acres with about 90 rods of lake frontage; it hasn't suffered like this one and might be available for future use. I am not saying we need the park today, but that is about the only vacant land in the area from Chatham to Windsor, on Lake St. Clair.

There is one other strip of land with about 90 rods along Lake St. Clair, and I think it has about 90 acres. There are a few buildings on one end of it, I believe, and as you know, the CNR gives us problems there because the line runs close to the lake. But in this particular area there is still a fair amount of land—either 90 or 100 acres—between the railway and the lake, so it would be possibly big enough for a day park.

I am not saying we need that land today, but I am just wondering if the ministry should be looking at the possibility of purchasing that for use in the future. I don't know if it should be done by the conservation authority. It would have to be a county and city park. I don't think it could be a municipal park; it would be too big for any municipality around there. But it could make either a provincial day park or a city-county park, and perhaps this could be done either by yourself or by the conservation authority.

Has there been any representation? I understand there was representation made here by some people in the area about this property. I don't know if you are aware of it or not.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am not aware of it, but I would think that once the new Essex Conservation Authority is established, that might be one of its priorities.

Mr. Ruston: There was some concern about boat ramps in the Wheatley Park. I think, with the high water, we lost the ones directly on the lake. I guess you are studying the possibility of some form of boat docking or boat livery off one of the twin creeks in there, but is there anything new on that? I think that was still under review the last I heard.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I think it is fair to say that we have met with the local township council once—and we are going to meet again—and we are going ahead with the joint examination and study of those things; so we are on it.

Mr. Ruston: Are there any new park proposals in the Peterborough area or the Trenton area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Quarry Bay.

Mr. Ruston: Yes, Quarry Bay is all I had down here. What is the plan here? A friend of mine in the area asked me about it and I was wondering what the plan was.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Our policy is to move slowly on this particular development. I think it is fair to say that there are a number of cottage associations in that area, particularly on Stoney Lake, that are concerned. Our plans are to meet with them and to get them involved and let them know in detail where we are going. There is no firm policy plan right at the present moment.

Mr. Ruston: You have none yet. Okay.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Yes, the first thing I would like to ask the minister is, has anything more been done on this Pierre Lake park up in the Cochrane-Iroquois Falls area? I know the municipality has made representations to you on a number of occasions and I think that your officials are quite interested in it. I have a standing offer to go up and visit it as soon as I can make arrangements with some of your officials to get up into that area. I noticed that when you announced your four provincial parks this year that wasn't one of them. Could you tell us where that one now stands?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are not moving very quickly on that one. I think it is fair to say that we are waiting to see what the feasibility study of the Moosonee-Cochrane road will be. It could well be that particular road would go through that general area. Once we have that nailed down then I think we would be in a position to move more quickly than we have in the past. It is a futuristic park. We have it in our programme.

Mr. Ferrier: I see. Another issue I want to bring up and just touch on—I have a letter from my riding today — recognizing that the hon. member for Thunder Bay has already brought it up and is going to pursue it much further than I will, is this question of snowmobile trails. I got a letter from the Jackpines Snowmobile Club in Iroquois Falls wanting to know if trails are going to be established up in that area something along the line that they have apparently established them in Quebec. They say in the letter to me: "Moreover, established, groomed, supervised trails would contribute immeasurably to safer snowmobiling." They use the regular arguments, which my friend from Thunder Bay I am sure will present shortly. They hope you will instigate major trail systems in the

province, particularly in the Iroquois Falls area. I know one of the councillors in Timmins has brought it up. He brought it up when you had your resources secretariat meeting in Timmins about developing trails in our area. From my point of view, I want to know if you are going to allot some money for snowmobile trails in my riding in those two areas?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well I think it is fair to say that following the progressiveness of the provincial secretary in bringing together a trail symposium—as was referred to earlier in our discussions—we did come up with a broad plan. Under this particular vote we have about \$26,000 for head office administration to start pulling together a trails programme for the province and we are aggressively working on that.

You will be interested to know we have about 1,859 miles of snowmobile trails in the province now with which my ministry is directly connected.

Mr. Ferrier: Are they all in the south?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not all of them. On Crown lands there are 611 miles; in provincial parks, 200, in forest agreement, 248 miles; on conservation authorities, 240 miles; on the St. Lawrence Parks Commission property, 60 miles; and other roads within provincial parks amount to 700 miles; for a total of 1,859 miles that we are maintaining. Now that is just for the general public; there is no charge or anything for that.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, there are not any trails in the northeast that I am aware of. You don't have the provincial parks up there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. They are open—

Mr. Stokes: But you don't maintain any parks in the north. Come on now; I can break it down for you.

Mr. Ferrier: I think that you had better spend some money up in the northeast.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: When we get an overall trails policy—once we put that policy together—then we will go back and get proper funding and get on with an overall trails programme.

Mr. Ferrier: I would say you have got about five months to get things ironed out, because it would be a darn shame to go through another season without some real work done. The people are looking forward to this from you.

I mean to say, I got a letter about it from my own riding and a councillor has brought it up several times at your secretariat meeting; and I know other times he has mentioned it in correspondence and resolutions of city council to your ministry. I think it is

really time you implemented that. I have some other things to talk about, Mr. Chairman.

The committee adjourned at 10:33 o'clock, p.m.

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Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

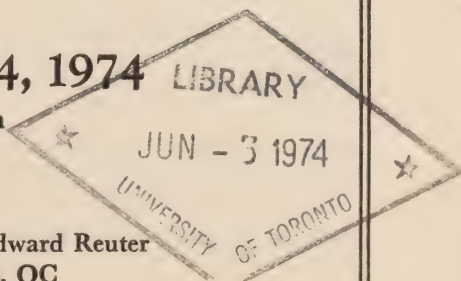
Tuesday, May 14, 1974

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 1974

The committee met at 3:15 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES (continued)

On vote 2203:

Mr. Chairman: In view of the fact that we now have a quorum, we shall begin. Mr. Ferrier is the first speaker.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): I have a constituent who belongs to the Ontario Handicapped Association and she regularly reminds me that in certain areas the handicapped are allowed into certain parks without charge. Now I am not sure whether it's provincial parks or parks managed by conservation authorities.

She feels that this should be allowed for handicapped people in all provincial parks across the province. I have had correspondence with the minister about this and we have discussed it in the estimates. The member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Laughren) brought it up last week in the House during the question period.

I think there is quite a bit of merit in this, if you can work out the administrative details for these people, because they haven't got the kind of money to engage in the recreational programmes that some people may. If they enjoy a day on a picnic at a provincial park or sitting out in the sun and that type of thing, it is something that they can do for a fairly reasonable amount of money. I know you have made quite a few changes in your policy for senior citizens. Have you reached—

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): And students too.

Mr. Ferrier: And students too? At what age are they permitted?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: During the school year, we cut the entrance fee in half for campers who are using our provincial parks. That's during the school year so that would be the months of May, June, September and October. We do not reduce them for July and

August. That was done at the same time the senior citizens were allowed free entry into our provincial parks.

Mr. Ferrier: Do you think you could extend your goodwill to include the handicapped?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are most anxious of course to go this route. I think I have let this indication on a number of other occasions. One of our problems, of course, is identification—having some way to identify the handicapped. Obviously, those in wheelchairs, those who are on crutches, those who are blind are very easy to identify.

I discussed this as recently as within the last two weeks with my colleague, Hon. René Brunelle, the Minister of Community and Social Services. They are working on a system of identification so that each individual receiving disability assistance would have an identification card. It is part of the GAINS package that the provincial Treasurer (Mr. White) announced during the recent budget. Once we can get that nailed down and, like you point out, do it administratively, we will of course give this very sincere consideration. We feel the same as you do—that it is something that we should be giving priority to.

Mr. Ferrier: That's good. As far as the senior citizens are concerned, what benefits do they get as far as overnight camping is concerned?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Full benefits—everything.

Mr. Ferrier: Anything at all?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Anything at all. They get free entry.

Mr. Ferrier: Free entry? Free overnight camping?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: A Canadian resident over 65 who can identify himself as a senior citizen gets free camping privileges.

Mr. Ferrier: This is very good. I didn't quite realize it went that far.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You may be interested to know your colleagues in Manitoba have just followed that of Ontario and made a similar move.

Mr. Ferrier: It is good to see that they are an open government too.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Following a progressive province.

Mr. Ferrier: The other matter I would like to deal with and then yield to others. When you drive the Timmins-Sudbury highway, Highway 144, there are not too many places where you can go off to park for lunch or this kind of thing. Now I know this is MTC's responsibility but I am wondering. I don't know of any proposed provincial parks in that area and when you came out with your four new parks this year, they were all in the south to meet the demand of the urban populations here. One can't quarrel with it; they need the recreation. But what about along that road? It's only been opened about four or five years and it would appear to me that there is some need for a park in that area. It is a beautiful part of the country and a lot of people are using it now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You mean, between Sudbury and Timmins?

Mr. Ferrier: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we will have a park opening up this year at Halfway Lake; it's about 55 miles north of Sudbury on Highway 144. It will be opening for full camping use. Some development is still under progress. The park will have 215 campsites with support facilities, including comfort stations, water pressure system and camp or beach facilities.

Mr. Ferrier: I am glad your officials have seen—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: So we can make a joint announcement on that particular area.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, I made a joint announcement with you this morning about the grant to the conservation authorities—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh yes. Fine.

Mr. Ferrier: —but I am pleased that this has reached the development stage.

How much land, by the way, is to be occupied by the park that you are proposing to have developed, by the YMCA I believe, in Algonquin Park? How much actual acreage is that taking up?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We haven't narrowed that down to an acreage; it is a temporary set-up. We are not taking out a chunk of Algonquin Park and giving it to the YMCA. It is going to be Crown land. The buildings will be Crown-owned and the YMCA will just be managing it. So that there is no necessity to pull out a large acreage of that particular development.

Mr. Ferrier: But you surely must have outlined the spot where this is going to be.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have the spot. Oh yes, we have the spot.

Mr. Ferrier: Where is it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is on Whitefish Lake. Off the Rock Lake road, I'm told.

Mr. Ferrier: How much are you budgeting this year for that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Two hundred and fifty-six thousand dollars.

Mr. Ferrier: And you expect it to start in operation the year after this?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. This year.

Mr. Ferrier: This year?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we'll have room this year for 224 children. There'll be four two-week periods, for 56 boys and girls of ages 10 to 16 in four separate groups.

Mr. Ferrier: Will they all be from the Toronto-Hamilton area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I might say that we've contacted, again, my very able colleague the Minister of Community and Social Services and asked him for some assistance and guidance as to where these people should be selected from. I think he would have a closer handle on the situation than we would, dealing with welfare cases and people in low-income housing units. So he is working very closely with us on the selection basis.

They'll be required, where they can, to pay a minimum fee, which will be about \$10. If they can't pay that, of course we will even waive that.

Mr. Ferrier: And this will come out of your budget or out of his?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This is the total package here. You are voting on it in this particular vote.

Mr. Ferrier: For instance, if somebody from the north—I suppose the people in the north have an opportunity to go to other camps nearby such as church camps and camps run by private organizations.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that, yes. There are more opportunities in northern Ontario than there are in southern Ontario—with the heavy population down here and the absence of these types of summer camps. And the price—look at the cost of sending a child to some summer camps. It is out of the reach of some of the less privileged families.

Mr. Ferrier: I know the advisory committee on Algonquin Park recommended that camps be taken out.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, right.

Mr. Ferrier: If you have got to make a choice I'd rather see camps in there than the logging. I don't suppose you've made a decision to take the logging out of there yet, have you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, that was government policy, and that government policy statement was made last July. There is no intention of changing that policy. It will be selective logging. We will establish an Algonquin forestry authority that will manage the forest resources.

As you know we'll be cancelling all the licences in Algonquin Park and that forestry authority will be working very closely with the Ministry of Natural Resources—and of course with other groups—in doing very selective harvesting. In this way we think we can maintain the economic base for that particular area. There are 3,000-odd jobs provided now by the woods-based operations. We felt this had to be maintained. We think we can maintain this and still retain the wilderness features of Algonquin Park.

Mr. Ferrier: I notice that the Kiosk operation there of—Stanaforth Lumber?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Ferrier: I notice after it burned down he is now moving it out to Rutherglen. I'm very glad to hear that because when I first went into the ministry, one of my first points was Rutherglen and it will be quite encouraging to see some development right there. Does this mean that the homes are also going to be moved out of Kiosk as well?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not the homes. We, we might say, put on a certain amount of pres-

sure to have the mill itself relocated. But it would be impractical to move the homes at this time.

Mr. Ferrier: But, that's their overall, long-term plan.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Long-term, yes. Right.

Mr. Ferrier: When are you going to set up this authority?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Forestry authority?

Mr. Ferrier: The forestry authority, yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are working on the bill right now and I hope to introduce it before the end of this session.

Mr. Ferrier: When you say this session, do you mean spring or fall?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, June.

Mr. Ferrier: June.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Before the end of June—if that is the end of the session.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): We'll be back next fall.

Mr. Ferrier: We'll be back next fall because—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Before the summer break. I'm not too sure what—

Mr. Ferrier: Some estimates won't get through by then.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I have learnt from my few years at Queen's Park never to set a date as to when the—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Spence has more experience than I have.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, of course it is government policy that logging continue. It is our policy that it does not, however. These leases that you talk about, are they being renegotiated? Are they being renegotiated did you say—the logging leases that are final?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, they are not.

Mr. Ferrier: Are they being cancelled then?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, eventually they will be cancelled.

Mr. Ferrier: What control is there of the logging that is there now? Is it just helter skelter and not—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, no, they are still operating under the system they were before, under the strict control of the ministry. We have some very strict controls; this will be passed on to the forestry authority.

Mr. Ferrier: And will the forestry authority just continue to follow the controls you now have or are going to set a whole new set?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It will be up to them. They may even come up with some more stringent rules and regulations but they will be responsible for the harvesting. This is the whole key.

In other words, we will be co-ordinating our activities in the parks with the advice and with the input of people who will be very carefully selected because of their interest and their background in various fields. We will be satisfying the needs of all the people who use Algonquin Park.

Mr. Ferrier: Will the employees—or is this too early to ask—will those who do the actual cutting be employees of the ministry?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, they will be employees of the Algonquin Forestry Authority because the authority will be doing the harvesting and even the hauling of the wood to the mills. The private operator will not be operating there under his own jurisdiction. The authority will be engaging these people—the cutters, the roadbuilders, and the haulers. And they will deliver the wood that is harvested to that specific mill. In other words, the economic basis will be maintained but we control very, very strictly the harvesting techniques.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, this sounds as if it might be a good thing to try this in other parts of the province as time goes on.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This could well be the forerunner of some major change in the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Ferrier: Another thing on Algonquin Park that we just—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Can you hear me, Jack?

Mr. Ferrier:—that we discussed at some length was the whole question of the satellite programme. A number of proposals were made to the committee and were quite well received. They recommended that the ministry go ahead with the purchase of these lands and the development of them for the purposes that they had outlined.

What progress have you made in that direction? Are you budgeting any money this

year for acquisition and development of any of those satellite operations?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we have funds in this budget. We have \$550,000 in Algonquin Park. Some of these funds will be used for the setting up of satellite parks and access points as was recommended by the advisory committee. So, we are taking very aggressive steps to get on with this commitment and this policy decision.

Mr. Ferrier: Have you got any time schedule that you are working under to try to get some of these into operation as soon as possible—like the next three to five years or what?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The whole programme, as I announced last July, was a 10-year programme.

Mr. Ferrier: A 10-year programme.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll have to get it all worked in and phased in. And if we can maintain our present acquisition programme and our present development programme, then that goal will be achieved no doubt.

Mr. Ferrier: Okay, I'll yield right now.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty followed by Mr. Stokes.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I wanted to make further inquiries into the proposed Short Hills Provincial Park. This concerns the draft policy recommendation reports. I have a letter here from the minister to Mrs. Mary Lou Chrysler of RR 1, Fonthill, Ont., who is concerned about some of the proposals in that recommendation. I think I should read it to refresh his mind:

You will have recently received a draft copy of their recommendations and a notice of a further public meeting to be held on May 6 at Brock University. This meeting called by the chairman, Mr. Armstrong, is for the specific purpose of providing the opportunity for local residents and others to make a further response to the proposed recommendations.

I wish to emphasize that when the final recommendations have been formally presented to me, I plan to review them very thoroughly with my colleagues in the government. I would also emphasize that these draft recommendations should not, at this time, be considered as an official government policy.

I trust that the draft report, and further comments by Mr. Armstrong at the May 6

meeting will alleviate some of the points of concern noted in your letters.

Apparently the meeting was held on May 6 at Brock University, and there are a number of resident property owners in the area who are not too happy with some of the comments that were made at the hearing that evening. Perhaps the minister will be receiving letters, as I have recently, concerning the proposed park. It's kind of a form letter, and it's written to me:

As owner of part lot 156, Hollow Rd., and part lot 163, Hollow Rd., both in the town of Thorold, and also part lot 163, Hollow Rd. in the town of Pelham, I am strongly objecting to the takeover of the proposed Short Hills Park extended area (section F) by the Department of Natural Resources or any other department of the Ontario Government.

Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

This is from Mary L. Hamilton. Another letter similar to that one is from Orval A. Hamilton.

Another letter here directs an important comment to some of the recommendations. This is addressed to myself:

We object strenuously to the proposed extension "F" as drafted by the Short Hills advisory committee.

According to the maps in the advisory committee report, our farm (lot 109) is in the easterly area of the core park of the Short Hills. We are one of the few farmers in the park core area who make our living entirely by farming. We feel that we should be advised as to whether our land is really in the park, and if we will be allowed to continue or be forced out. We have a large investment in buildings and equipment and feel that without the land we would be unable to operate successfully.

If the park takes the land and leaves our buildings . . . we should be paid enough for the land to replace it with land in the area, within a short driving distance, in order to continue to use our buildings to full advantage.

If the land is not in the park, the adjacent core park area must be fenced to keep trespassers off private property; to protect our crops and livestock. We have had considerable experience with trespassing damage in the past, from horseback riders and motorcycles, and feel that when the park is open to the public our problems will be insurmountable.

This is from Mr. and Mrs. Fred E. Howell.

I think the minister has seen the plan here and this is the section F which would almost go up into the village of Fonthill. That would include quite a large area of farmland and orchards in the area, and it would also include some beautiful residential homes in the area. They're concerned about what is apparently in the recommendations. They wanted—the parks commission I guess you would call it, the Escarpment commission—to extend their boundaries to include that part. In other words, they want to put a land freeze on that area and confiscate the land without paying the owners for anything. That's about the intent of it. The minister shakes his head "no." Let's put it on the record. He says no.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I might comment, Mr. Chairman, briefly. I believe what the member is referring to is a preliminary report of the Short Hills advisory committee and it's an advisory committee of my ministry.

Their recommendations, I understand, have been printed. They're going back for further public discussion. It's my understanding that the time for hearing public briefs and submissions has been extended to May 31, so the public does have an opportunity to get back and to comment on their preliminary report. It is my further understanding that their final report will be in my hands by late June, after which of course we will give it very careful study and scrutiny. And I just want to say to you that we have a very deep concern for farmlands and for the development of those farmlands for recreational purposes.

I have the pleasure of sitting across the table, in the Resources Development policy field, from the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart), and I can assure you that he doesn't let me forget the need to maintain these farmlands in a producing state.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, the one letter raises a valid point about the fencing in of the park. Now, there's no recommendation in any of the reports here about the park proposal that it should be fenced in, and I think it should be fenced in.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Because if not, you're not going to have any control over private property whatsoever.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If it's required we certainly will fence it. There's no problem there at all.

Mr. Haggerty: There's no recommendation on this in the report.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's something we would add over and above their recommendation.

Mr. Haggerty: I suppose then I should come back and ask you, if there are questions from the residents in the area about this proposed boundary extension, would they have the same opportunity to meet the members of your staff, say, on the same consideration that you allowed Dr. Marcy to make his case to the parks integration board?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If they want to write us they can, but I would suggest to them to make their appearance and their case before the advisory committee, and make it as forcefully as they can. And then after the final report is tabled, if they want to comment on that one further, we'd be glad to hear from them.

This whole exercise is to get public involvement and to design a park that the local people want and will use. The whole thrust is for us not to design a park here at Queen's Park or anywhere else in our ministry, but to get the local people involved and get their reaction and their desires and wishes. Then we will react to them.

Mr. Haggerty: There was reaction enough. I think there were about 400 at that meeting. There are some who feel that that proposal of extending the boundaries to include the area marked F in the report here—that covers a pretty broad area. In other words, what the report has said is that it would give any person the right to travel over their lands, and I think this is what they object to. It's private land and the recommendation shouldn't be in the report at all.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll consider that and your comments very carefully when the final master plan is drafted, I can assure you.

Mr. Haggerty: The other matter is Rondeau Park. What proposals do you have for Rondeau Park? I understand quite a problem has existed there for the past two or three years, where you've gone in and bought up some property and destroyed the cottages and left weeds to grow up. And then come along and extend leases to our American neighbours for another 20 years.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's not true.

Mr. Haggerty: That's what you said last year, "We renewed the leases for another 20 years."

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. They have the same rights as those cottage owners in Algonquin Park. That following 1954's major government policy decision each lessee would have the opportunity for one 21-year renewal, which they are getting. We are only buying properties from those individuals who wish to sell to us. We are not expropriating. We have—

Mr. Haggerty: One of the questions on the questionnaire from "The Interesting Facts About Rondeau Provincial Park"—this is from the association there—asks:

Why does the government insist on forcing cottagers to sell and leave, yet permit park and police officials to live in some of the nicer cottages purchased? If the cottagers go, the park officials should also live outside the park.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, if I might answer that. Some staff is required for the operation and maintenance of the park, for enforcement of the various rules and regulations. They're part of the overall park programme.

Mr. Haggerty: Is there an advisory committee appointed now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, yes, yes. We have an advisory committee established. In fact, the member for Kent was very active on that particular day when I had the honour to be in Chatham, along with the member for—

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Chatham-Kent.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Chatham-Kent (Mr. McKeough). Right, the member from Chatham.

Mr. Spence: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And we met in Chatham to make the official announcement. In fact, I would like to put on the record the names of those people because I think they were, as my good friend Mr. Spence will agree, hand-selected because of their wide diversity of interests and concerns and—

Mr. J. F. Foulds (Port Arthur): You know, you are just doing this because flattery will get you nowhere.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But just to give you a list of those individuals, they are: Garnet Newkirk, the former mayor of Chatham, who has been elected chairman of the committee. I would say that he received the endorsement of everyone at that particular committee on that particular day.

Others included Lloyd Burbidge, deputy commissioner of parks and recreation for the

city of Windsor; Tim Cummings, director of the Chatham JCs; Walter Ewasyke, a teacher and chairman of the Wallaceburg Conservation Club; Mrs. Agnes Greer, manageress of Greer Dry Goods, Blenheim; Mr. Henry Howard, executive member of the UAW and CIO, Chatham Labour Council; Mr. Lyle Mann, Co-op manager, Wardsville; Mr. Mac McDougall, vice chairman of the Ontario Appeal Board, Farm Credit Corp. of Canada, past chairman of the Wheat Producers Marketing Board, Blenheim; Mr. John McGuigan, farmer at Cedar Springs; Mr. William Neff, member of the Chatham Separate School Board at Chatham; Mr. J. Gordon Nelson, professor of geography, University of Western Ontario, immediate past president, National Parks Association, London; Mrs. John Packham, housewife at Chatham; Dr. Lois Pearce, MD, from Chatham; Mr. Ken Robertson, reeve of Wheatley and former warden of Kent county; Mr. Doug Smith, recreational director of Ridgetown; Mr. Wes Thompson, a bean merchant from Blenheim; Mr. John D. Thomson of Uncle Tom's Cabin historic site at Dresden.

I think if you look at that list you will see it is a very broad list, and has some excellent people who will do an excellent job for us in preparing an overall master plan for Rondeau Park. I want to point out to you that Rondeau Park is the second oldest provincial park in the Province of Ontario, and it is fair that in the year 1974 we have to have a new look at it.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Minister, is there any time limit for this committee to report, or will we see it whenever they get the report ready?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I didn't put a time limit on it. I don't want to box them in as to how fast they should operate. I would hope within a year they'd hand something to us. That gives them sufficient time to hold public hearings.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): It is an ongoing thing, John.

Mr. Spence: Yes, I think it is a good thing. I think it was the right decision for you to make, Mr. Minister. I think that the people would like to get the views of a committee because there has been a great deal of discussion about Rondeau Park. They say the naturalists are running it, and this and that are running it, and I think this advisory committee will bring out a report that will satisfy the surrounding area.

Mr. Haggerty: From this report that is put out on Rondeau Park, some people have indicated that too much decision-making was made by members of your staff.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is the cottagers' association, of course. It is not the Rondeau Park advisory committee that issued that bulletin.

Mr. Haggerty: No, this is probably the group that instigated the advisory committee.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh no, we were well down the road when this group established themselves.

Mr. Haggerty: When did you do that though? When did you appoint this committee?

Mr. Ferrier: Is that the same kind of committee as the Algonquin Park and the Quetico Park advisory committee?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Ferrier: Why wouldn't there be a New Democrat on that committee?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There are no politicians on this committee.

Mr. Ferrier: There is one right there.

Mr. Haggerty: Jack is not on it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He's not on it.

Mr. Ferrier: Isn't he on it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No.

Mr. Ferrier: I thought you said that he was on it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He was there when the announcement was made.

Mr. Ferrier: Oh, I see.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And he endorsed it wholeheartedly.

Mr. Ferrier: Oh, I thought you said he was on it, and the hon. member for Essex-Kent (Mr. Ruston), and the member for—

Mr. Spence: We were there at the meeting.

Mr. Ferrier: Oh, I see.

Mr. Haggerty: You see, this is one of the things that is missing on the Short Hills advisory committee. There isn't a person from the agricultural sector there. There is no

farmer sitting on that committee, to my knowledge.

Mr. Spence: Well, I think they invited the minister to come down and meet them to discuss Rondeau Provincial Park.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Spence: And the minister set up this advisory committee, which I thought was the right decision to make. I do congratulate him for it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Great stuff, great stuff.

Mr. Spence: But I'm not on it yet.

Mr. Ferrier: I think that the members from that area should be on it.

Mr. Haggerty: We don't have the pull that the northern members have.

Mr. Foulds: You don't have the energy either.

Mr. Ferrier: The minister's parliamentary secretary was on the Algonquin committee—

Mr. Haggerty: The member for Thunder Bay was on—the Quetico committee—

Mr. Ferrier: —and the members for Renfrew South (Mr. Yakabuski) and Renfrew North (Mr. Hamilton).

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I think it is a little different when we are dealing with the Algonquin and Quetico parks because they are of such size.

Mr. Haggerty: There's a real provincial interest.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, there is a really broad interest, but Rondeau Park pulls people from the Chatham area, the London area and so on. I think we made it very clear that Rondeau Park was not a park for Chatham, but it was a park for the people of the province of Ontario.

An hon. member: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And we wanted the advisory committee to keep that in the back of their mind when they developed that park, because there was a very parochial feeling there that the park belonged to that specific area.

Mr. Spence: I think what you did, Mr. Minister, in picking the members of the advisory committee from all over south-western Ontario was a good approach to solving the differences of opinion in that area.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Stokes.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Stokes: When I look at the \$26 million that we are voting here for recreational areas, I would like some explanation of the fact that in the four items in this vote, salaries and wages account for well in excess of \$20 million out of the total of \$45 million.

When I look into some of the other votes that I think are even more important than the recreational aspects, because a good deal of the geographic area in the province relies upon this ministry for the orderly development and exploitation of our resources, I find that you are actually spending more on wages and salaries in the outdoor recreation programme than you are in the resource products programme.

I realize that you are never going to put the recreational programme on a paying basis. I think that is unrealistic unless you want to say, "Let the user pay." I am not suggesting that at all. But I am wondering, have you had an inward look at the ministry to say, "Are we in fact getting value for the \$20 million-plus that we are spending solely on wages and salaries as opposed to \$45 million overall for fish and wildlife, acquisition of properties for recreational areas and all of the things associated with this outdoor recreation programme?"

Do you ever have a look at yourselves and ask, "Are we spending money in the right way? Are we placing the right kind of emphasis on the things that are going to provide maximum benefit to the people of the province? After all it is their money"? While I was sitting here looking over the figures, I saw a figure well in excess of \$20 million just to administer a programme that has a total value of \$45 million. I must ask what kind of an ongoing review do you have to see that the right balance is maintained and that you are not getting a bureaucratic monstrosity spending so much on salaries, wages and administration, rather than providing more recreational outlets for people?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I would point out to you that the operation of a provincial park system is a very labour-intensive operation. In this particular vote, we have a complement of something like 308, on a permanent basis, and our summer and seasonal work employees will number well over 4,000. So, there is a very high labour content involved in the operation of this particular programme.

So, I think the salaries are very much justified. In fact, in many cases we would like to have more; as an example, more enforcement. There is a requirement to have more interpretation centres. These things are all ongoing requirements that we try to fulfill.

But you asked if we are looking at ourselves, if we are controlling our costs, and if we are getting the maximum benefit for the taxpayer's dollar that is being expended in this particular programme. I would say to you in this particular vote that you are voting on a figure of \$38,800, in which we have undertaken a provincial park cost study to do exactly what you have pointed out—to find out what direction we should be going in, and to look at various management procedures.

Mr. Stokes: Does that mean you anticipated the question?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, we are just that efficient and we are that forward-looking to look at ourselves and say, "We have to go in this direction." The functions examined will include cost control, and other predictions, fee-setting and improved operating efficiency. And we are conducting this study, as I said earlier, on a two-year basis with Government Services. So I don't know if you read my mail or not, but you are right on.

Mr. Stokes: Well, all right. You assured my colleague from Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) late last week that you were, to the greatest extent possible, especially as attrition and other factors helped you, going to keep your people on a permanent basis, rather than a seasonal basis. Now, with what you have just said—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, wait a minute now. These 4,000 employees are summer students. A lot of them are university students.

Mr. Stokes: Well, that is the point.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: So, they are not included in the group to which he was referring.

Mr. Stokes: Well, I wanted to make that quite clear because as I travel I see a lot of provincial parks, and the work associated with their operation and maintenance, during the summer. I see a good many of the Junior Rangers for instance, and there is none of that money in that particular—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You will also see the same faces, too, because there are certain individuals in a certain age group who enjoy

parks work and come back to us on a seasonal basis. They don't want to be employed with the ministry on a year-round basis. They like to get involved in the summer parks programme and this is why you see them out there. They are not considered in the discussion that we had with Mr. Martel.

Mr. Stokes: So you are saying, then, that you do take on 3,700 additional personnel to operate your recreational programmes during the summer.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is in excess of 4,000, actually. It is over and above the 308 on a permanent complement that we have in the programme.

Mr. Stokes: I just wanted to be assured that you were taking a look at it.

You mentioned when you were giving us a breakdown of the \$26 million, that among other things you were doing a management study on Lake Huron, Lake Erie and the north shore of Lake Superior. I don't know anything about Lake Huron and Lake Ontario. My two friends over here can speak about that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Is that shoreline or fish and wildlife?

Mr. Stokes: It's recreational area. I wrote it down; Lakes Superior, Huron, Erie, and—let me expand on it and maybe what I am referring to will occur to you.

As a result of recommendations made by the strategic land-use planning committee under the jurisdiction of the district forester in Geraldton, when the committee had responsibility for all of the Lake Nipigon area east of Lake Nipigon, the north shore of Lake Superior, a management plan for Neys Provincial Park; we made many recommendations for a plan of development which was to be submitted to this minister for his approval and action.

As a result of that, you commissioned either Kates, Peat, Marwick or Hedlin Menzies—to study the recreational potential along the north shore of Lake Superior, having regard for the needed access to Lake Superior. Because of the ruggedness you were going to have to make a fairly realistic survey. You were doing it all the way from Sault Ste. Marie to Thunder Bay.

It is my understanding that survey has been completed. The people in many areas along the north shore route are anxiously awaiting the results of that survey to see how recreational chances might be enhanced in

keeping with the recommendations of the Design for Development, which is government policy. I have assurances from your people at the district level that they are just waiting for the results of that survey to ascertain where they should start placing emphasis. Having regard for the neutral aesthetic beauty of many areas along the north shore of Lake Superior, in particular Rossport, which was the site of one of the world's largest fish derbies before the demise of the lake trout population—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Somebody else lived there too.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, unfortunately the poor fellow passed away.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: A great Canadian.

Mr. Stokes: How far are you with that, and what kind of positive results can we see from the money expended?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The report on the Hedlin Menzies study is well on its way. The interim reports covering phases 1 and 2 of the study have been completed.

Phase 1 reports on the physical potential of the shoreline for marine-oriented development and assessed demand for this type of use. We co-ordinated that with the federal study on small harbours so that there was a meshing of those two studies. The federal government are doing a study right across Canada, looking for potential small harbour developments.

Phase 2 reports specifically on boating potential and includes a review of potential marina sites and economic implications.

Phase 3 is where we are now. It will develop proposals for public discussion. These discussions will occur in three to five municipalities along the north shore. We hope they will get under way the week of June 15. We will have a number of public meetings along the north shore and we will discuss phase 3, which is the development plan.

Phase 4 will be the assimilation of the consultants' final report. I might say that the consultants are doing a little more work on site at present because we thought their first two reports were not as intensive as they should have been, so this is—

Mr. Stokes: It was my understanding they were rather superficial.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Stokes: And rather meaningless.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right. We've sent them back and they're working on them now. We should be in a position to include some budgeting in next year's programme for some of the developments that may be recommended in this report.

Mr. Foulds: Do you have a full-time person supervising that project?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If you recall, the regional director, of course, is responsible for this particular study. But we've also asked the resource manager of the conservation authority to co-ordinate the Thunder Bay harbour study—

Mr. Foulds: Oh, yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —the federal government marina study and this particular study. So we have a co-ordinated approach. We don't have three different studies being done in three different directions. It's obvious that if public funds are going to be spent to improve the Thunder Bay harbour they will have to be channelled through the conservation authority. So they should be plugged in early in the game. This is what we discussed in our meeting with Mayor Walter Assef in his council chambers six to eight months ago.

Mr. Stokes: All right. Associated with this, then, has your ministry, at the regional level, been involved in the ongoing concentrative process that Ontario Hydro has been involved in for the determination of a site for a new generating capacity in that area? They've delimited the sites from four to two?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's not my understanding. Nipigon and Atikokan.

Mr. Stokes: Tell me more.

Mr. Foulds: Not according to Don Carmichael's latest press report.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Is that right?

Mr. Stokes: Are you apprised of what's going on?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. We monitor all those meetings and we're very much involved, because our ministry has so much concern in a major development of that size. The biological effect of such a development on a certain area would be astronomical.

Mr. Stokes: I hope you don't lose sight of the economic effects, because we don't have as many chances as they have down here in southern Ontario. And I don't mind saying here, within hearing distance of everybody,

that I think we're prepared to make some trade-offs wherever it's going to lend some viability and provide good job opportunities for people who want to remain in that area.

We have some people in our area who will try and have you believe that we want to leave everything just as it is. They want us just to maintain the status quo. We have certain academic types who feel that as long as there are children to teach at the elementary school level, or they have a nice job at the university, that everything is fine with the world.

I hope you people don't buy that any more than I do. I'm sure the minister doesn't. But I hope that those who are responsible for monitoring those meetings will not get the idea that certain people associated with certain educational institutions speak for us. I want to assure you they don't.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm confident that with the proper input, good public discussion, proper planning and the development of those facilities—having due respect for our environment and the ecology—that we can get the best of both worlds.

Mr. Foulds: You're ministerial material!

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Cabinet!

Mr. Foulds: Cabinet material.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Tall timber.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Good.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Yes. There are several subjects I'd like to talk about. First, I'd like to comment on the acquisition of land up at MacGregor Point Park north of Inverhuron. There seems to be a lot to be desired by the manner in which officials from—I presume the Ministry of Government Services—the ministry responsible for buying the land, indicated to cottage owners where the park was going to be. They told them, "We will need your cottage." And while there was a huge acreage, I think something in excess of 600 acres—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Two thousand three hundred.

Mr. Good: Two thousand three hundred. But there were 600 acres in one parcel of land and about 20 cottages involved. Finally, after corresponding and questioning the minister in the House, the discussion was resolved to the point where, if the cottage owners did not wish to sell, the ministry would design the park around the cottage owners.

But the impression left by the civil ser-

vants who went to try to make deals with the cottage owners was simply that if they didn't want to sell other means would be taken to obtain the land. It certainly left a bad taste in the mouths of the cottage owners. I finally got it in writing from you, Mr. Minister, that you would not take cottages through expropriation, but would design the park around them. I think there were very few acres involved with the 20 cottagers; nine or 13 acres or something. It wasn't that consequential but there was a huge sum of money involved because some of those cottages were pretty elaborate.

I really feel if that had been made plain at the beginning there would have been a lot less trouble; a lot of misunderstanding would have been avoided and people would have understood what was going on. Everyone had the idea that your original plan included the properties and they would be expropriated if they didn't want to make a deal. Finally, we got that settled.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is settled to a point. I repeat it—I have repeated it on a number of occasions—we would not expropriate those summer cottages.

Mr. Good: That wasn't the story getting through to the cottage owners from the people who were visiting them.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know who was generating some other thoughts, and I don't want to make any excuses or pass the buck but Government Services does our land acquisitions. I think it's fair to say that some of the boys get a little aggressive and I've had discussions with my colleague, the Minister of Government Services (Mr. Snow), on this very point.

I want to point out to you that we had a public meeting there as late as last week. One of the cottagers was there and he appeared to be very happy with the direction that we were going in. Like you say, the matter is in hand.

Mr. Good: That's fine because it took a long time for them to understand what your intention was there. It was only after getting a commitment from you in the question period and sending copies of Hansard to them that they realized what your intention was. They weren't getting that message from the people who were coming around to look at their properties. Some of the offers were pretty insulting. I might say, as well.

Switching to the proposal on Papineau Lake Park, how many cottages are involved

there? I don't want to discuss the cottage owners' brief in detail but it's certainly not very complimentary, to say the least. I know there are problems involved here with 250 private cottagers around the lake of which a relatively small portion is left as shoreline.

My understanding is the Davis family does not want to sell the farm now and it will have to be expropriated. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There's a bit of confusion right at the present time, if I might just elaborate, on Papineau Lake Park. We're at present trying to formulate overall boundaries for that particular park. I think it's fair to say the number of cottagers which will be disrupted is minimal.

Mr. Good: Twenty?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not even that. Mr. Rollins might have the exact figure.

Mr. C. T. Rollins (Hastings): Mr. Minister, if it goes along with the original plan there wouldn't be more than eight at the most. That would be the maximum if it goes according to the regional proposed plan.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right. We're looking at modifications to those boundaries, too.

Mr. Rollins: Yes. There wouldn't be more than eight cottages.

Mr. Good: Does that include the subdivision the Davis family has already developed because there are over eight now? There are 20 lots in that subdivision already.

Mr. Rollins: The Davis subdivision, according to the county standards, doesn't meet the qualifications for permission to build due to the level of the land and the lake water level. They can't get their septic systems at that point.

Mr. Good: According to your ministry's own statement when you introduced it, "Section F includes subdivision plan 566 containing a total of 13 cottages; section D one cottage; parcel H contains a total of 15 cottages."

Certainly, unless you've revised it—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We've revised it and I think it's fair to say we haven't nailed down the boundaries yet. We're re-examining it; this is an announcement of our intent to develop a provincial park there. I would say that many of the cottagers on the lake are objecting to it. The planning board of that

particular area has given overwhelming approval as has county council.

The local council, I believe—

Mr. Good: The local council, yes?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —is objecting and the vote is very narrow.

Mr. Good: Taking into consideration the water quality report of 1971, which was not the best it should be, and your letter to me of March 12 in which you say, "I have requested that a further study of this lake be carried out this summer and the Hon. W. Newman has assured me that this lake is on the 1974 schedule"—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Good: —do you use the guidelines of the lake alert studies which have been done to show how many people a lake of a certain size and depth, inflow and outflow can support?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Certainly we refer to that, to the criteria that are set out in the lake alert plan, and work it into the development of a park area. That's all taken into consideration. I can assure you that we will not be impairing the water quality of Papineau Lake. We have indications and we have written reports from the Ministry of the Environment to this effect. The water quality is excellent right at the present time—

Mr. Good: It is what?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Excellent.

Mr. Good: That's not what this report says.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There may be a bit of a problem at the south end. I believe Mr. Rollins is more knowledgeable because he lives close to there; it is his area. When I replied to you, I indicated there would be an ongoing monitoring by the Ministry of the Environment to make sure we didn't impair the quality.

Mr. Rollins: Mr. Minister, with reference to that particular area, I believe that the study will indicate where some of the seasonal problems arise from after the study has been completed on the existing shorelines and occupations.

Mr. Good: Maybe somebody in the ministry can tell me what are the total number of campsites that are expected to be developed there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I might say on Papineau Lake, as we move ahead and finalize our boundaries, it is certainly our intention to work very closely with the planning board and the people in the area. We will be having public meetings to get their input and, of course, to get the input with regard to the planning from the cottage owners. I think it is our intention to pare down the number of campsites so that we can be sure beyond a shadow of a doubt that we are not putting too much pressure on Papineau Lake.

Mr. Good: I am just trying to—here it is, yes. Total cottage developments, 275 to 325. I was trying to figure out the number of campsites on the lake.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Lee of the park planning branch.

Mr. T. E. Lee (Director, Park Planning Branch): I believe that the proposal called for a maximum of up to 250 campsites.

Mr. Good: Up to 250 campsites? As Mr. Rollins says that that particular part of the area which included the Davis subdivision is not suitable for septic tank services, how do you work in the 250 campsites as far as the disposal of sewage in the area is concerned? How will they be treated?

Mr. Lee: The reason for the problems with the original subdivision is that the cottage lots were located right along the shoreline. If the actual property itself, which includes some 500 acres of the original Davis farm, is suitable for cottage subdivision providing the cottages are not put on the shoreline; we would have exactly the same problem with the campsites—we couldn't put the campsites themselves on the shoreline, but the backland property is quite excellent.

Mr. Good: The backland property. Somewhere I read—or was it when I was talking to you or someone in your ministry?—that you would not be encouraging use of the lake by the campers. Is that public marina facilities, public boat launching facilities? Did you have a policy on that?

Mr. Lee: There are two boat access points on the lake at this time. The actual park itself has a very shallow beach area which is not suitable for launching boats of any size. Canoes, perhaps. The request of the county planning board was to consider not having boat launching at the parksite and this would certainly be resolved during the actual planning process. But there are existing boat

launching facilities on the lake; two access points, I believe.

Mr. Good: Now, one other point, Mr. Minister. Either you or Mr. Lee can answer. That concerns the alternatives to this lake, which as I say is filled up now with almost 300 cottages. The alternatives were in their brief which was addressed to you and I am sure you read it and studied it. They mention numerous other alternatives in that particular area.

The strange part, since just the other day the release by your ministry says that the provincial parks in southern Ontario are being under-used and northern Ontario provincial parks are being crowded, especially Algonquin—from there up. People are wanting to go further north and it means under-use of parks like, for instance, the one—Restoule, is it? Not Restoule. Presqu'île Park, the release says, is definitely not being fully used, one of the oldest parks in the area, which would be south of this particular region, I presume, by some 100 miles or more.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I may interrupt. One of our thoughts in getting this information out, and this is just a few of the parks in southern Ontario, is to let the public know where they can go, because we have dozens and dozens of parks that are just packed to capacity. If they know that some of these areas are not used quite as heavily as others, they would swing over there. But I would say to you that there is no feasible alternative for the Papineau Lake Park.

Mr. Good: All right. What about some of these: Little Papineau Lake, Bark Lake—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Bark Lake I say to you is—

Mr. Good: —Upper Bark Lake, Echo Lake, Lake St. Peter? What about these other lakes in the area which are evidently not developed to the extent that this particular lake is at the present time?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would like to ask Tom Lee, the park planner, just to comment with the details on that.

Mr. Lee: The Hastings county planning board and ourselves were asked to look at alternative sites. We use basically the same inventory system, which is the Ontario land inventory system and the recreation capability ranking system.

The areas in the Bangor, Wicklow and McClure townships were specifically looked

at. I believe most of the lakes which you referred to are in that area—specifically Echo and Little Papineau. Those areas are not suitable for provincial park development. On the ranking system that is used they rank from one to seven. One is the best lands and seven is the worst for recreational purposes. Both Echo and Little Papineau Lake have six and seven rankings, which make them quite unsuitable for any type of provincial park development.

Mr. Good: Nobody has done any work on them up until now.

Mr. Lee: One of the areas has a little bit of private development on it, including a small cottage area. Bark Lake is not included in Hastings township or in the three townships where the local council instructed us to examine other possibilities. But Bark Lake has both potential and some limitations. It is a hydro reservoir with drawdown problems. However, there is one site on the north end of the lake which is quite good. It also has private development on it. But those are the only areas that could be considered at all in that particular region.

Mr. Good: But the water study will be going ahead this summer?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, in 1974.

Mr. Good: Now, let me see. All I seem to do is ask about new developments. I talked briefly with the hon. member for Wellington-Dufferin (Mr. Root) about all the objections that were raised by people in the Shelburne area over the Boyne River park. Can someone here fill me in on whether these objections have been resolved?

Mr. Root said he felt that most of the objections had been met. They included such things as the loss of tax revenue and the interference with the municipal landfill site, which should be included in your park. Of course, that's not as bad as buying parkland that included a subdivision, as you did a few weeks before that. As for the matter of closing the major road through the park, the size of the park originally had been indicated to go right up into the potato-growing land, which was going to take a lot of farmland out of circulation. Maybe if you start on answering some of these problems which I discussed in the Legislature a while ago, you could give me your up-to-date report on what your plans are here.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. As I pointed out to you, we had a number of meetings with my colleagues Mr. Root and the member for

Dufferin-Simcoe (Mr. Downer), who brought some rather large delegations—and some very well-informed, forceful delegations, I will admit—from various municipalities. Individuals living in the area came too, and from farms, particularly that potato farm to which you refer. We listened to their objections and their suggestions for making changes. I think it is fair to say that they were not totally opposed to the park. They wanted it modified to meet some of their objections.

Mr. Good: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have asked the consultant to go back, in view of these objections, with which we agree, and to revise his planning. Now he has had, I believe, one or two public meetings since that meeting, and is reaching a consensus at the local area. So we think we can come up with a modified park that will make it acceptable to all those in the area.

Mr. Good: Well, what are you planning to do? What about, for instance, the municipal land fill site which will be inside your park? What are you going to do about that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: For taxes?

Mr. Good: No, for continued use of it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll ask Mr. Keenan to comment on that for you.

Mr. J. W. Keenan (Executive Director, Division of Parks): Mr. Good, we are very much aware of the village of Shelburne's concern with the landfill site, and we are attempting to draw a boundary around that so we can provide for its continuation. There may be some problem in that it's very close to the Boyne River, and there is a possibility of some problems there. Mr. Lee may wish to comment in more detail on that. Is there anything further you want?

Mr. Good: You mean you are revising the boundary to exclude the landfill site?

Mr. Keenan: We are. We are looking at boundary changes in a number of places in an attempt to come up with a plan that will meet the reasonable objections that have been voiced to us. We want to accommodate to the extent that we can, the concerns of the people in that area.

Mr. Lee: Mr. Chairman, as the minister has indicated, the people did come and present material in a very well-informed fashion. I believe that there might have been a list of approximately 30 to 40 items, and

some of these were big and some of them were small. We are only working on it now and I couldn't say exactly how many can be resolved. I would suspect probably about 90 to 95 per cent of them. I think one of them which you have pointed out was the garbage disposal site. The agricultural land we definitely feel that we can pull in the boundaries to virtually resolve that problem.

Mr. Good: The northern boundary?

Mr. Lee: It would be the western boundary that was more of a problem than the northern boundary. The northern boundary did not, I believe, go up north of the road that would cross you over into the major potato-producing area. The potato farmers are concerned about park visitors in the area and possible raiding of their crops. We feel that if we scale down the park development slightly and have enforcement staff there—we have always gotten the co-operation of the OPP—we believe that we can take care of items like that.

The other major item was, and I don't know if we can classify these major or minor, the roads. I believe that we are very close to working out a solution on that which is satisfactory. We are going back, or have gone back within the last week, to a couple of farmers in the area because we really need to know some of their specific transportation problems—which way they drag their equipment to take it some place. We are doing this and I think we will resolve most of the issues.

Mr. Good: What about the Boyne River itself? I think the effluent from the sewage treatment plant is used by the village of Shelburne, and of course the council was concerned that any curtailment on their use of the river for the effluent of their sewage treatment plant would certainly prevent the normal growth of the municipality.

We all recognize the need for parks. We also have to recognize that a municipality be allowed free and uninhibited growth and use of the area around it. This park is pretty close up against an existing community.

Mr. Lee: I don't know what the final solution will be to the sewage problem, but I think there are two points to be made. One is that we had not intended to insist upon a level of water quality that would be restrictive in that sense. On the other hand there are, in co-operation with the Ministry of the Environment, studies on the sewage disposal systems of Shelburne taking place now. We are co-operating with that. There is some opportunity to develop an integrated system.

I don't know whether that is going to be achieved. That is being studied.

Mr. Good: Mr. Minister, a question for you: As a matter of policy, when you plan a location for a park like this, one which is so close to an existing community, there is evidently no assessment study done as to the financial implications on the municipality in tax loss; whether they are going to get grants under the Provincial Parks Act in lieu of taxes; the effects on the growth of Shelburne, and what not. Why wouldn't that all be done before you announce you are planning a park there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This particular park has been in the planning and development stage since 1968. It is only recently, when we started to get the local input into the planning process and had a consultant there, that people became aware of it. It was an on-going thing. We were in touch with the municipality. They get tax revenue once the park is designated.

Mr. Good: Yes, they'd get tax there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: So there is a reasonable loss there.

Mr. Good: But not comparable to what they are getting now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. But there are other economic benefits for that particular area. There is a certain spin-off for a provincial park.

Mr. Good: Under your new arrangements, how many working farms will be taken out of production by the park?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Under the revised boundary?

Mr. Good: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is going to be a minimum of farm land. Tom might have the exact size we recommended. We've cancelled out a tremendous amount.

Mr. Lee: We haven't got the final plan yet.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I see.

Mr. Lee: I would say we can trim it down to somewhere in the neighbourhood of 100 to 150 acres. As you used the category of working land—

Mr. Good: Plus grazing land.

Mr. Lee: I don't think I answered that question specifically. But when we get the plan we will certainly give that information. The agricultural land in the area falls into a number of categories. One is class 1 agricultural, and includes active farming. It goes down to areas of lower capability, then into an area that indicates grazing; then into the category of abandoned land, really. In the final plan we will indicate a breakdown of all of those types of land included in the proposal. We think we can narrow it down a very long way.

Mr. Good: Can I get a definite answer about the landfill site? I think you evaded it before. Are you going to work around it or are you going to allow them to use it within the park? Evidently there aren't other suitable landfill sites in the area that are available and accessible.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Tom, do you have the specifics on that?

Mr. Lee: We are trying to work around it; we think we can. As I say I don't have a final plan or the final boundaries at this stage and—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are trying to work around the landfill area.

Mr. Good: What about the major north-south road going through the park. Is that going to remain open?

Mr. Lee: I think the proposal calls for Prince of Wales Rd. to be kept open. This is going to require revisions in the original proposed access system as well as increased costs through underpasses to connect park links, but it can be done.

Mr. D. J. Wiseman (Lanark): This gentleman mentioned that 150 acres of workable land would be the total affected. I take it from that that the Patton farm wouldn't be affected? I understand it is 200 or 300 acres of pretty good workable land and quite a business operation.

Mr. Lee: The Patton farm is one of the specific ones we are trying to minimize touching in any way.

Mr. Wiseman: But you can't say if it will remain there as a viable farm?

Mr. Lee: I'm almost positive it will remain as a viable farm.

Mr. Good: Inside the park or outside the park?

Mr. Lee: Outside the park.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Mr. Chairman, I am amazed at the amount of information that has gone to the member, because we were on to this for months.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We certainly were, I'll vouch for that.

Mr. Root: The area of the landfill site is a farm owned by a man named Thompson. He has his home right off that. There is a gravel pit on it and the village of Shelburne is using it for landfill, filling it in. It is one they hope will be left out of the park. The potato-growing farmers are more to the north of the park area. The park itself is not particularly a potato-growing area, but just immediately north, you get into that very fine type of soil. The Prince of Wales Rd., which is really a continuation of Highway 10, where it turns west into Shelburne, they would have to cross over to Highway 24, two concessions, and come down and go around. Some of the farmers move heavy equipment.

Mr. Good: Is that straight north from Primrose?

Mr. Root: Yes, straight north from Primrose. The Patton farm Mr. Wiseman mentioned is on the next concession and if it is possible, I think it would be desirable that that road be left open. You may have to put an overpass in. There is a lot of good farmland on both sides of that road.

In the first two concessions east of Highway 24 I think some of the land has been reforested. You probably want to keep that in the park and I personally can't see much objection to that. There is some very good farmland there and since we had our meeting with the minister and he agreed to restudy it I think things have pretty well settled down. If they don't settle down, you will hear from me again.

Mr. Good: This is all very fine, Mr. Minister. The member for Wellington-Dufferin tells us that everything is all copacetic and that everybody is happy.

Mr. Root: No, I didn't say that.

Mr. Good: That's not the message which comes through to me from the people up there, from everybody, including the town council. They are not all happy and you know that as well as I do.

Mr. Root: All right. I would like to know who you are getting it from because we had a member of council down with us. I have run nine elections in that area and there are people in that area who would cut my political throat any day if they could. They haven't succeeded until now but they are probably trying again.

Mr. Haggerty: Never.

Mr. Ferrier: Never.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Good: I am not trying to make politics out of this.

Mr. Root: I would be interested to know if the town council has officially made this representation?

Mr. Good: No. Read the papers.

Mr. Root: The Shelburne paper always knocks us.

Mr. Good: I see.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: One of those?

Mr. Root: That's all right. I know the paper. They have even changed ads I have paid for and set them up in a different type but I just pay the bill.

Mr. Good: You are pretty disturbed.

Mr. Root: No, I always win Shelburne. If I get the right people knocking me it's better than having my own friends supporting me.

Mr. Good: Don't get political with me.

Mr. Root: I am not political. I agree completely, Mr. Good, that the people there were quite concerned. This Patton farm Mr. Wiseman talks about has one of the fine Charolais herds in Ontario, worth a quarter of a million.

Mr. Haggerty: So has Mr. Wiseman.

Mr. Root: He showed me a cow he had been offered \$25,000 for and hadn't taken it. It causes a very great concern. There are other farms on the same road; that is the first concession east of Highway 24. The village of Shelburne quite rightly was concerned about the number of people there might be in this park and what that could do to the capacity of the Boyne River to take treated sewage effluent which could have an effect on the town. I was up there over the weekend and met with represent-

atives of the town, and they were concerned, quite properly concerned.

In fact, OWRC and later the Ministry of the Environment were running a spray irrigation experiment in the Shelburne area to keep treated effluent out of the streams and put it on the land. This is something I tried to promote when I was on the Ontario Water Resources Commission. If you put the phosphate on the ground and grow grass or trees, you save the water and get a more rapid growth of trees. There has been some work done on that in the United States.

Regarding Shelburne, I am very much interested in this proposal, although I was concerned when there was talk of 10,000 people. But since it is a reforested area, you could probably spray your treated waste there. Lagoons, as you know, are really oxidation ponds; and after you oxidize your wastes and reduce the BOD loading, you spray the liquid into the bush and actually fertilize the trees. Some of the research in the United States has shown that you get 50 per cent more growth.

So you are killing two birds with one stone. You are keeping your wastes out of the water—

Mr. Haggerty: That's a lot better than letting them go down the Grand River.

Mr. Root: Well, I won't get into that one right now. I agree, you should keep them on the land. But Shelburne was concerned about its solid waste disposal, and that is something for the Minister of the Environment (Mr. W. Newman). I don't know whether there is any possibility of putting the wastes into an abandoned gravel pit and letting them gradually seep through the soil. I do know they are doing research on that; and it has been found that treated wastes travelling through the soil or garbage are purified, so that by the time they reach the river there are no impurities.

I will say that I have had a lot of concern expressed. I was up there myself and drove through the area; in fact, I drove through it again after we had the deputation down here about the roads, about the farmland and about getting this machinery through. There is no doubt in my mind that you can work out something that will be acceptable. Farther down the stream it's not farmland; it's rolling, pretty rugged country. But if we can protect the sewage disposal system at Shelburne, keep those roads open, leave the good farmland alone and have a little smaller park to start with, I think the people will accept it.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Spence.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Chairman, I didn't mention anything last year about Erieau with regard to the property that is owned by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway because we were concerned last year with water. But two years ago I think I asked you a question in regard to this property, which is owned by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway; they used to bring in coal there by boat.

A large portion of the village is owned by the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway and a lot of the homes there are on Chesapeake and Ohio Railway property. It has been a concern of those people that if some company came in and bought this land, they'd have to move their homes. I hate to bring it up in view of the good job you're doing on the dikes along the shores there, but it is a concern of those people.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, I realize that.

Mr. Spence: You said you were negotiating two years ago with the Chesapeake and Ohio, but that their price was out of your reach; and you thought that you might expropriate this land if they didn't quote a fair and reasonable price for the property.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Spence: I wonder if you have done anything more to reach an agreement.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. Well, I think I'll refer to my personal visit to that particular area and state my own desire to take that part of Ontario and keep it in public ownership. I think I feel personally the same as you do, that that particular area should remain as a recreational area for the general public to enjoy.

As you correctly indicated, we did enter into negotiations with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, but we were unsuccessful after some considerable time. We decided that because of our lack of ability to reach an agreement we would enter into expropriation. Apparently there is some jurisdictional or some legal problem that we are involved in now in that these funds were given by the federal government and there has to be a lengthy waiting period during the expropriation procedures. We are trying to sort that out right now.

I want to assure you that we are working very closely and we are keeping the council very much informed. We have the outside limits of the area confined and defined. They are fully aware of what our plans are. Just

as soon as we can get the legal aspects of it cleared away, we will be moving ahead. It's definitely our intention to acquire it and to develop that for provincial park purposes.

Mr. Spence: There are a lot of homes on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway property.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have excluded those homes from our plans. They are separate.

Mr. Spence: You wouldn't be buying that property and selling it back to those homeowners.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, we would not.

Mr. Spence: They have to buy that themselves?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They would have to negotiate and buy that themselves, yes.

Mr. Spence: It is a concern to a lot of homeowners.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I realize that. They are all on leases or short-term leases.

Mr. Spence: They are all on leases, which is quite a concern to those who have homes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have been working very closely with the municipality on this question. They are very much aware of our feelings and our desires and our plans.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Wiseman.

Mr. Wiseman: I am just wondering, Mr. Chairman, about Murphy Point Park. I understand we are going ahead with the road down there. I wonder, if we get the road done this summer, if we can expect the park to open next year and how many sites it might have.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am going to ask Mr. Keenan to comment on this detail.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Chairman and Mr. Wiseman, I believe that at the present time we are negotiating with the municipality there concerning the access road agreement which involves both the local municipality and ourselves as well as the Ministry of Transportation and Communications. We believe that part of it is well in hand and, given that, we would be going ahead next year with further development of Murphy Point.

Mr. Wiseman: Would it be open to the public next year? If so, how many sites would you start off with? We've done quite a bit of work in there. Some tell me that because

we are not using it as a park it's being set back, that people get in there and get into mischief and what have you.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Wiseman, we have had surveillance on the park. It is being used now to a certain extent. When we get the road problems sorted out, our immediate plan is to proceed with development of 200 campsites there.

Mr. Wiseman: Would that be if the road is completed as hoped this summer?

Mr. Keenan: We are proposing this year to proceed with the campsite development, so that hopefully when the road is in shape, the campsites will also be available for the park to go into operation.

Mr. Wiseman: When I asked this last year, I think you said you wouldn't do it until you got the road opened. This year I want to know, if the road is open this year, are there plans to develop it.

Mr. Keenan: Development is to proceed there this year.

Mr. Wiseman: Fine. And 200 sites, eh? We have some land in Montague township just east of Smiths Falls. Can you tell me when you feel you might develop that, or is there any plan to develop that in the future?

Mr. Keenan: I believe that is one of the properties that are on the Rideau waterway. There are no immediate plans for development of that. I would say it is probably some years away.

Mr. Wiseman: And with regard to a full-time parks supervisor for Silver Lake Park—I asked you this last year—is there any change?

Mr. Keenan: No sir, there is no change this year. It is a question of making the best utilization of the complement of permanent staff positions that we have available to us. To this point, there have been other areas of higher priority than Silver Lake, which has successfully operated because it is primarily a seasonal park, if you will. We feel that it can, for a period of time, continue to operate with a casual superintendent.

Mr. Wiseman: That leads me to another question. With an increase in wages in the recreation vote of almost 50 per cent, how much of that is made up in actual increase in wages and how much is made up in

increase in staff? You mentioned that we couldn't get one for Silver Lake because of this problem, and it looks like a \$4 million extra vote. Last year we had \$8.5 million. This year we are up to almost \$12.5 million.

Mr. Keenan: Well, in park operations, sir, increase in existing salaries amounts to about \$1.3 million. That is covering the same number of people that were there last year, if you will.

Mr. Wiseman: So we have about \$2.7 million in additional benefits?

Mr. Keenan: There are additional salaries contained within the park development proportion. Then there are matters of employee benefits and such that are included in there as well.

Mr. Wiseman: Is that not employees' benefits underneath there, that almost \$600,000, so that we have \$2.7 million extra dollars in wages? How many more employees would that be?

Mr. Keenan: There were 18 additional full complement added to the recreation areas programme for this fiscal year.

Mr. Wiseman: I think I am not getting through. If there is \$2.7 million extra, you mentioned the increase in wages to the staff that are there is about \$1.3 million. Then where in the dickens is the other \$2.7 million going if we only had an increase of 18 additional employees?

Mr. Keenan: Included in that, are the 18 additional staff. There are also the additional operating costs associated with park expansions that have taken place across the province. In other words, where campsites have been added, day-use facilities added, and additional seasonal staff are required for the operation of these facilities, that is part of that sum.

Mr. Wiseman: Over and above what we had last year?

Mr. Keenan: Yes, sir.

Mr. Wiseman: There must be quite a few of those. Have we increased by that many more new parks this year?

Mr. Keenan: Well, there is one new park that the minister referred to at Halfway Lake, and then there are quite a number of additions to existing parks where additional funding is needed. Actually, there were in

total 14 new or expanded parks that require additional operating funding.

Mr. Wiseman: It just looks odd. It must to a fellow down in my area when he sees an increase in wages there and wonders why he can't get a full-time man for Silver Lake, which is one of the busiest parks in the summer, I think you will find.

Mr. Keenan: Well, as I mentioned, there are only 18 additional complement, and this obviously wasn't one of them.

Mr. Wiseman: With the increase of about 25 per cent over the vote last year, is there any consideration given to private operators? We have a lot of people running their own parks in: Lanark county, and I know it wouldn't be a very popular thing to raise the rate again. But these people are paying income tax to help pay this vote. Have you given any consideration to maybe raising that another 50 cents or something so these people can stay in business? If you people have an increase of 25 per cent, what about the poor private individual?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, this is something I think I have to say to you, that it is an ongoing review within the ministry. In fact, as I pointed out to the member for Thunder Bay, we have a park-cost study programme that is going on over the next two years, and it may well be that this will flush out some reasons for increasing park fees. Until we get that study moving ahead and looking at the cost-benefit ratio, there is no indication.

Mr. Wiseman: It really doesn't seem fair to a private park operator.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There are no plans to increase this year.

Mr. Wiseman: When you look at the item for wages under parks and recreation it is more than—I know it's the next vote—fish and wildlife as a complete vote.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think this shows the emphasis that we place on providing recreational opportunities in the Province of Ontario. The demand is just escalating at a tremendous rate and we have to respond.

Mr. Wiseman: Do you have an idea of how many more visitors we had to our parks last year than this year?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we can give you that. Our total visitors numbered 12,369,000 this year, down about 200,000 from last year,

but our campers were up considerably. They are up about seven per cent over the previous year. I think that about 600,000 campers visited our provincial parks.

Mr. Keenan: points out that the decline in regular visitors to our provincial parks was due to the high water levels on the Great Lakes. In many of the camps there were no beaches. They were flooded out. So this did create a problem and it is reflected in this attendance.

I might say that this compares favourably with the national parks programme. I think you have heard me say this on a number of occasions.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, Mr. Chairman. How much of this \$26,600,000 is being spent on Wasaga Beach?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Wasaga Beach? I have just been informed that the major funding for the Wasaga Beach development comes under the TEIGA vote. We have a small amount in here for operational programmes, but land acquisition and development comes under the TEIGA vote. So it's not up to this ministry.

Mr. Haggerty: Why would there be two separate votes on this matter? You are dealing with parks, why would TEIGA be involved?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, this was—

Mr. Haggerty: I know there were political implications back in 1971. I think it was something about \$18 million up there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, there was a municipality involved here. This involvement came through the old Department of Municipal Affairs.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you have anything to do with the master plan?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are working very closely with the municipality and TEIGA.

Mr. Haggerty: What step is the plan at now? What stages are you at now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is almost ready to go now.

Mr. Haggerty: Almost ready to go?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. We've done a tremendous amount of work in this area.

Mr. Haggerty: You couldn't tell me whether or not you spent some of that \$18 million up there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The government has spent a tremendous amount of money in buying up certain areas and developing park areas, in close co-operation, you might say, with the municipality itself.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, they would have to be serviced.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, that is the next step, yes. The next step is the development of a sewer-water system and improved road systems throughout that whole area.

Mr. Haggerty: That is why TEIGA has come into it, when you get into water-sewer services.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: But, in the park itself though—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The whole community is part of it.

Mr. Haggerty: How much money have you spent there, beyond the \$18 million that was allocated for that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We don't have the \$18 million in this vote.

Mr. Haggerty: No, no. But how much money have you allocated in your funds here?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Keenan says he has no estimate on that particular amount for the operations.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you spent money though?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, yes, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: You have? On top of the \$18 million? I didn't hear that last remark.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We spent more of our money prior to the inter-ministerial project that is under way now.

Mr. Haggerty: But you couldn't tell me how much your department was—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't have it, but we could get it for you. We will get that information for you.

Mr. Haggerty: I would like to know what the total amount is that you are spending in that area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sure, I would be glad to get it for you.

Mr. Spence: Does the revenue nearly cover the cost of operating the parks across the province, or how far out is it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that our revenue does not come up to our expenses. We take in in the neighbourhood of \$5 million in fees and this is related to an operation cost of about \$6.5 million. But you must consider that in the last year we had a number of senior citizens who are allowed free into the parks. We have scaled down our fees for the educational groups going into the parks. So that all had an effect on the entrance fees that were received.

Mr. Spence: Right. Go ahead.

Mr. Haggerty: Has your department taken any initiative in the disposition of the old Welland Canal that lies in the city of Welland, to Port Robinson? Have you had any technical input in that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is a technical question so I will ask Mr. Keenan to reply.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Chairman, over the years we have from time to time been involved in discussions concerning the future of the old Welland Canal with the Seaway Authority and with other ministries of the Ontario government. Certainly the city of Welland has been quite interested in it. The unions in the city of Welland have, I believe, made representations in the past. These discussions are still going on.

Mr. Haggerty: Is it going to revert to the municipality for a possible park, or is there any indication from the ministry here saying we will take it over as a park?

Mr. Keenan: No decision has been made on that. I think it might fall under any one of several jurisdictions — the Ministry of Natural Resources, the municipality, the conservation authority. From time to time it has been suggested that the Niagara Parks Commission might have an interest. Certainly no decision has been made, except that it is generally recognized that the areas along the old Welland Canal and the spoil areas that have been landscaped have very high recreational potential.

Mr. Haggerty: Has anybody approached the federal government to take it over as a federal park?

Mr. Keenan: Certainly they have been involved in discussions. The Seaway Authority, of course, is an agency of the federal government. It is being looked at from all angles.

Mr. Haggerty: The St. Lawrence Seaway certainly want to unload it, and if they can pawn it off on somebody, okay. They couldn't care less about what it costs to maintain it afterward. It costs them money to maintain that waterway. Of course this is drawing on the cost of the operations of the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority and they want to unload it as soon as possible. I would suggest to the minister that the quote should be made to the federal government saying, "Let's establish it as a federal park." I think they have a great responsibility in this era of water shortage.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I have just been informed that TEIGA is co-ordinating a review on this particular project which includes the federal government.

Mr. Haggerty: On disposition of the Welland Canal?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Foulds: I assume this is the vote under which I can discuss Old Fort William. Is it the recreational area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The tremendous development in northwestern Ontario.

Mr. Foulds: There are a number of things I would like to say. I was very pleased that in your leadoff you did say:

I am sure you will want to discuss our programme at Old Fort William near Thunder Bay. Despite some ill-informed journalism this spring, I am confident that this project will be of outstanding benefit, not only to northwestern Ontario, but to the entire province.

I notice that the word "discuss," in the printed copy of your remarks was a little askew. I am intrigued to know what word had been taken out and "discuss" substituted for. You don't know?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I don't.

Mr. Foulds: You got it with the crooked printing of "discuss" in it. I want to say a couple of things at the beginning. One of them is that I certainly agree that there is a possibility of development of a site of genuine historic and educational value; there is a possibility of that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: With complete authenticity.

Mr. Foulds: That's the possibility; and that's what we will get into discussing, I'm afraid. I think of that as the basis of the project—and our discussion this afternoon indicates that that is the basis of the project—then there is a legitimate spinoff in terms of tourist value and in terms of the spinoff value to merchants. No one debates that. I think that there has been so much controversy about the item, though, that we do need to discuss it openly and frankly without any acrimony and without what, I grant, were some of the inaccuracies of the past.

I think that there is a question of priorities, however. And I do think that we do have to look at the project in terms of getting the value for the money that we are putting into it. For example, I have heard figures bandied around from \$3 million to \$25 million for the park. It is unfortunate that the inquiry's report hasn't yet been presented in the Legislature.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The answers to your questions are prepared and I believe they are on the way to the Premier's office and will be here very shortly. I was hoping they would have been tabled today.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, we talked about this before; and I am sure because that would clarify things. For starters, can you give us a ball-park figure—or as someone said the other day, "an eyeball-to-eyeball figure"—on the overall total cost of the project.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Keenan has been working on the answers to your inquiry on the order paper.

Mr. Foulds: He has my sympathy. I feel sorry for him sometimes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I must say that the cost to the taxpayer in preparing that answer is astronomical.

Mr. Foulds: And very well worth it; very well worth it. That is part of government. You wouldn't want to fall into the trap of John Reid and the federal Liberals of hiding behind—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, we want everything above board; provided they are fair questions. Mr. Keenan, maybe you could elaborate further on the total expenditure?

Mr. Keenan: Yes, Mr. Chairman, the expenditures to the end of the project—recognizing that there are some problems in terms of prediction of inflation costs and such like that are provided for—for the construction of the fort and the other ancillary expenses associated with them for the project as it is now approved—are somewhere in the order of \$12 million.

Mr. Foulds: Do you have a projected completion date?

Mr. Keenan: Yes, sir, we are hoping that the physical construction, or the better part of it, will be finished by March 31, 1975. But during the period between then and June 30, 1975, the landscaping and such like would be carried out; those operations that cannot be done, obviously, in the winter or spring. And by the end of June, 1975, the project should be completed.

Mr. Foulds: Right, so your estimate of \$12 million takes into account an inflationary factor, does it?

Mr. Keenan: Yes, sir, it does.

Mr. Foulds: And if inflation continues to rise at 10 per cent—is that the rate that you projected it on over the next 2½ years, say?

Mr. Keenan: The rate that is used in the contract—and as usual in construction projects—is based on the Southam construction index. And I must confess I am not intimately familiar with it. But it is a standard construction rate.

Mr. Foulds: That is a confession we could share.

Mr. Keenan: But it is a standard inflationary rate that is used by the construction industry.

Mr. Foulds: What is that called — the Southam?

Mr. Keenan: The Southam index.

Mr. Foulds: Interesting. Right. Let's say that we are spending \$12 million, for point of discussion. I sometimes wonder, frankly, in terms of priorities, whether it wouldn't be better to start a Crown corporation, for example, to process minerals and other raw materials for development in the north. That is one of the things that I want to make clear, that my concern about the project is a concern about priorities and a concern about the philosophical basis of development in the northwest; not about some of the

garbage that gets dragged into the headlines of the press.

I do feel concerned that we may be placing an overemphasis on tourism and the tourist aspects of the project. I think it's important to realize that we can't build an economy in northwestern Ontario on tourism alone. A number of people have legitimate concerns about turning too many of northwestern Ontario's citizens into those with the mentality of shoeshine boys with their collective hands always out for a tip. That's one of the dangers of an overemphasis on tourism.

I think that tourism is a valuable industry if it's integrated into the economy and part of the total economy of the region. But it falls into the category of a service industry. In northwestern Ontario we have a fairly well developed service industry, including the tourist industry. There's room for expansion. We have a fairly well developed resource industry. There's room for expansion.

What we don't have and what I think that you and your ministry should be emphasizing is the development of the secondary industry between those two. Therefore, the idea of going to more processing refining of our natural resources has a great appeal to me. I think it has a value in terms of developing a genuine economic infrastructure, if you like, in the region.

Let me start then by asking a couple of questions. Why is it that the possibility of \$5 million of federal funds was passed up in 1970-1971, which would have been available, I am told, if the fort had been reconstructed on the original site?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's one of the questions that came to my mind and I inquired into that particular matter.

Mr. Foulds: That was before it was in this ministry, I believe, when that decision was made.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. I was told that this offer was never made, that there is no such federal assistance, regardless of whether it's on the original site or not. I was told that each project is handled on its own merits. Maybe Mr. Keenan could elaborate further. He may have been more knowledgeable of that. But this is my understanding, and this was related to me by the former Ministers of Industry and Tourism, Mr. Guindon and Mr. Auld. This was a false report or a false feeling, that the federal government would come in with this amount of money if it was

on the original site. Do you have any more to comment on that, Mr. Keenan?

Mr. Keenan: No, sir, I don't. That's my understanding.

Mr. Foulds: If the site is declared a national historical site, is there no federal programming available?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, yes, they could take it over entirely if it was a national historical site. That would be a judgement of their own.

Mr. Foulds: Was there any overture made to the federal government to have it declared a national historical site?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is my understanding there was. Yes, there was.

Mr. Foulds: And what was the result?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They weren't interested at that particular point in time. This is my understanding. I think the CPR moved in here then.

Mr. Stokes: They would have had to move a whole railway yard.

Mr. Foulds: Just hold on about that for a minute. One letter went to the CPR, asking them if they would move those tracks which go to an elevator that is no longer used, in the eastend of Fort William and which subsequently burned down. The CPR replied that they were not interested in moving the tracks at this time. But nobody made them an offer that they couldn't refuse.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is my understanding that the minister of the day went to Ottawa and met with the CPR officials. This was, as you pointed out, a very controversial issue in Thunder Bay at that point in time. It was hanging in the air for a number of months while the negotiations and discussions were going on. It was intimated to me very forcefully that the CPR were just determined and were not interested in relocating those tracks and were not interested in selling their land. And another reason, of course, was the amount of residential dwellings that would have to be removed.

Mr. Foulds: There was only a block.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: A full block, yes.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, that's true.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The reply from the CPR may well be documented within the ministry itself.

Mr. Foulds: If you could take that I would appreciate it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll have a look at that, yes.

Mr. Foulds: It is ironic if what you are saying, in your information so far, is as you've indicated. It is ironic that the federal government is now going into a wholesale plan for relocation of rail lines through urban centres.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right.

Mr. Foulds: I'm well aware of the dangers of raising questions about the project in terms of votes back in Thunder Bay because, by and large, the chamber of commerce now endorses the project. The merchants are, by and large, favourable to it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think the whole community is.

Mr. Foulds: Certainly Mr. O'Brien indicated in the cabinet meeting I was privileged to attend that he felt very good about it. But I do think a lot of well-meaning people still have some fundamental questions about the site. In what period of history have you contracted for the fort to be reconstructed? Is it around 1812? I've seen different dates. That's why I ask the question.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It dates back to 1815.

Mr. Foulds: In your question to me during question period—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll get Mr. Richardson, who is the project administrator—

Mr. Foulds: Within your ministry?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. He has been seconded from Government Services for the construction.

Mr. Stokes: Is it going to be a Hudson Bay post or a Great West one?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Northwest Co.

Mr. Stokes: Which one?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Northwest Co. French Canadian background. Mr. Richardson, I might say, is very knowledgeable on all aspects of Old Fort William. He follows it on a day-to-day basis, and I might even go further to say that he works on an hour-to-hour basis, and his total effort is involved.

Mr. Foulds: Is that because your answers are changing so fast?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. He knows all the answers.

Mr. Foulds: It's good it's going up so quickly.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In fact, it's fair to say that he spent a considerable amount of time with one journalist who, of course, questioned him by the hour on the various projects. So I have to bow to his knowledge and concern for the development of the project.

Mr. R. J. Richardson (Project Administrator, Fort William): The period in which it is being reconstructed is 1816 to 1821.

Mr. Foulds: It will be 1816 to 1821 and at that time it was a Northwest Co. post?

Mr. Richardson: Yes, Northwest Co. post.

Mr. Foulds: This is a value judgement which, I suppose, we both have to make. To what extent is National Heritage making use of Prof. Dawson's work?

Mr. Richardson: All information that has been made available by Lakehead University is being used in the reconstruction.

Mr. Foulds: Pardon me?

Mr. Richardson: The entire information that has been made available by the Lakehead University is being used in the reconstruction.

Mr. Foulds: Let me rephrase the question, then. How much are you consulting directly with Prof. Dawson? Is he still on retainer?

Mr. Richardson: We are actually negotiating directly with Miss Joyce Kleinfelder who is director of the archaeological team.

Mr. Foulds: I see.

Mr. Richardson: We have not been discussing the day-to-day problems with Prof. Dawson.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I might just add a comment, I believe Prof. Dawson is still on a retainer with National Heritage.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, I think he is paid a nominal fee of \$300 a year or so.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —a month, isn't it?

Mr. Richardson: I'm not quite sure of the figures. I don't know.

Mr. Keenan: May I add a comment here?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, Mr. Keenan has a comment.

Mr. Keenan: Prof. Dawson made, of course, an original study on the site of Old Fort William which certainly has been utilized. In addition to this, as you're probably aware, and as Mr. Richardson has pointed out, we separately contracted with Lakehead University and specifically, Miss Joyce Kleinfelder, who has worked with and under Prof. Dawson, to carry out additional archaeological work on the original site in order that we might have a maximum of tangible physical information available to us for use in the reconstruction.

Mr. Foulds: There is a danger, though, isn't there, that you have got your information coming to you now while the site is being built? Have you found that you have had to do any reconstruction because of the new information?

Mr. Keenan: The work has been going on over some three summers, as I recall, and of course the product of that work has been fed directly into the information process for National Heritage. Miss Kleinfelder has turned out at least one major report. During the current fiscal year, the archaeological team at the Lakehead University is currently putting technical publications into manuscript form that summarize and deal with the various aspects of Fort William, archaeological and anthropological as they found them; in addition, they are preparing documents that will be available to the public, probably on a sale basis, and also will form the basis for some of our additional interpretive information.

So she is really doing two jobs. She is doing technical publications that would be up to the highest academic standards; in addition, she is preparing manuscripts for material that will be read and understood by the general public concerning the anthropological and archaeological aspects of Fort William at that particular time.

Mr. Foulds: Now, if it's a Northwest fort, it's ironic you are building it on what was the Hudson's Bay site after Lord Selkirk sort of swooped in—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He tried to assist in the resolving of their differences.

Mr. Foulds: Well, those differences were resolved a century or more ago. But in one of the minister's answers to me, he indicated that as well as archaeological information, you are using other information, such as

sketches, graph material and so on. One of the things that interests me is how reliable is the material that you get in the Hudson's Bay archives, which National Heritage claims to have unearthed, when you are dealing with a Northwest Co. fort?

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Foulds, we are dealing with it at the time when the fort was captured by Selkirk from the Northwest Co. He, of course, made sketches of the fort. In addition, Selkirk prepared detailed inventories of building contents and such like in order that he would have these available for an anticipated lawsuit, which I think took place in Montreal.

In addition, other evidence—drawings and such like—has been found which has been put together with the archaeological information to derive the best possible information on the form of Fort William at that time.

Mr. Foulds: Well, to be honest, I find this very strange, because what you have done is you have decided to rebuild the fort on a five-year period, during which it was in a very strong state of flux. Selkirk captured the fort in 1816. You have chosen the period from that year to 1821, when obviously there was bound to be a bastardization—I don't know the polite word—of the building, and you are going to have the transition from a Northwest fort to a Hudson's Bay fort.

That, it seems to me, does give you a very neat defence in terms of charges of historical inaccuracy in that you can say, "Well, they were in a state of flux then, so we've got a little bit of the Northwest flavour and a little bit of the Hudson's Bay flavour." Is that a fair comment?

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Foulds, the information that is available to us is that which was essentially at the time of takeover by Selkirk, and really has reference to the fort prior to such subsequent modifications as the Hudson's Bay Co. may have carried out. Of course, you are perfectly right. Over the subsequent years there were changes made to the fort. But that particular period was selected for reconstruction because the most reliable information available was available for that period.

Now, Mr. Bowes, director of our historic sites branch, also is quite familiar with this, and he might care to add to that—being an historian which I am not.

Mr. R. G. Bowes (Director, Historical Sites Branch): Mr. Foulds, I'll just add to that and say that Fort William was the headquarters

of the Northwest Co. from 1803 to 1821. It functioned after 1821 as a minor outpost of the Hudson's Bay Co., but the main period of importance was 1803 to 1821. Now Selkirk did come in 1816 and take over the fort. However, it did not become property of the Hudson's Bay Co. until 1821.

Mr. Foulds: Until Selkirk died and the merger took place!

Mr. Bowes: But I think most of the modifications that reflect the Hudson's Bay Co. change meant that Fort William ceased to be a command post and became a minor outpost—as it became after the Hudson's Bay Co. integrated it into their system. It really didn't take place until after 1821. So what we are really dealing with, when we look at Selkirk's inventories, is the post as it was as the command post of the Northwest Co.

So we really have it at its height with the added advantage of having all the inventories prepared for the litigation available to us—which is a bit of an unusual advantage, a bonus really. Quite often in the sites we deal with we don't have convenient litigation proceedings like that.

Mr. Foulds: Well, why, if I may say that, didn't you choose a year like 1810 or 1812 where you were still in a period of fairly static physical development at the fort, if the fort's period is 1803 to 1821? Is it that to maintain the accuracy, you have to get as close as possible to the dates of Selkirk's documents?

Mr. Bowes: You have said it right there. It is because when we are dealing with Selkirk's inventories, in order to get as close to the historical accuracy as possible, we have chosen the date when, in fact, he did his drawings and the date when he took his inventories, and that is why the 1816 date was chosen. That is the actual date we have the most information about—how the fort physically was. And it does of course come within the 1803-to-1821 time period. That's the reasoning behind that.

Mr. Foulds: Then let me ask this other question, and any of the three or four of you could answer. Why not select one year, 1816? Why have this time period 1816 to 1821?

Mr. Haggerty: Why not 1867?

Mr. Bowes: I think the interpretation will concentrate on 1803 to 1821. This is what our interpretive programme will be built around. It will be built around the command

post. Actually, as far as archaeological information goes, we will also be dealing with the history of Fort William over time, dealing with prehistoric occupation of the original site and how man has used the site over time. In actual fact we will be going beyond the 1803 to 1821 time period. But that will be the period of concentration.

Now the main reason for the 1816 period or date is because this is when we have most of the documentation. But the documentation didn't occur all exactly at one time. The litigation proceedings were long and drawn out. You can't say that on a certain day in 1816 Selkirk did all his inventories because this extended over a number of years. This is why it is not exactly 1816; it is 1816 on until the inventories are completed.

Mr. Foulds: I am intrigued by a phrase that has cropped up three times, I think, so far in the discussion: our interpretive programme. What does that mean?

Mr. Bowes: The interpretive programme basically has two components. One is for the general visitor and the other is the educational programme for public schools, high schools and universities.

Basically the interpretive programme is how you interpret the Northwest Co. to the visitor to the site. You explain how the buildings were used; you explain about the lifestyle of the voyageur; and you try to get the visitor, as he wanders around the site, to see a link between people in the past and himself. After all, they are living in the same environment—or in the same location, not exactly the same environment.

Mr. Foulds: There are many of us who would say the same environment; or fairly close to it.

Mr. Bowes: I don't know how much you want me to get into on that but there are various facets of the educational programme as well. These are all just being designed. We have a very competent programme supervisor. We were lucky enough to get him from Lakehead University and he is designing that programme right now.

Mr. Foulds: Is that Armand Webber?

Mr. Bowes: Yes, that's Armand.

Mr. Foulds: A very good historian.

Mr. Bowes: Yes, I was very pleased to get him.

Mr. Foulds: You were very lucky to get him. He may bail you out on the projects.

What kind of dialogue have you had with the Thunder Bay historical society since its initial objections in 1970, I believe? Have you had any dialogue with it because, as I understand it, it submitted a brief to the original meeting of city council of May 6, 1971, with Mr. Guindon and Mr. Auld, I believe. The brief indicated a real concern that there would not be a historical development; that the emphasis would be too much on tourism and less on history. Has there been any dialogue with the society since then? Is it happier about the project?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I may comment briefly, the word reaching me is that since many of the people from the historical society have been visiting the site on a fairly regular basis a lot of their original fears have been dissipated. They don't have the same fear they originally had once they have seen the development proceeding. Mr. Bowes may have some further comment on that but that is the word reaching me.

Mr. Bowes: I would add we haven't had formal contacts with the Thunder Bay historical society since I have been involved, although I have heard that a lot of individual members, as Mr. Bernier has said, have offered comments while on the site. The other thing I would say is that because we have a very close liaison between Armand Webber and, for example, Elizabeth Arthurs from Lakehead University, who has done some very good work on Ontario history, I think this would tend to help satisfy the historical society's desire that the concentration be very much on a legitimate historical programme, which is certainly the intention.

Mr. Chairman: I understand they are ready for the vote. Does the committee want to return after the vote?

Mr. Foulds: Let's go for supper after the vote and we can continue at 8 o'clock.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Let's return at 8 o'clock.

Mr. Chairman: Return at 8 o'clock. Right.

It being 5:30 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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Legislature of Ontario *Legislative Assembly* Debates

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Standing Resources
Development Committee *57*

Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Tuesday, May 14, 1974

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 1974

The committee resumed at 8:10 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

(continued)

On vote 2203.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Rollins informs us that he has staff here from the St. Lawrence Parks Commission. They would like to be able to discuss their vote tonight and if it is favourable with the committee we will finish with Mr. Foulds and then go to the St. Lawrence Parks Commission. Would that be favourable to the committee?

Some hon. members: Agreeable.

Mr. Chairman: Okay. Mr. Foulds.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): If we could only get from the House leader (Mr. Winkler) that flexibility.

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): There is co-operation in this committee, from all sides.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds, would you like to continue please?

Mr. J. F. Foulds (Port Arthur): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, yes I will. We have established that the projected total cost of the project of Old Fort William is \$12 million, give or take a million depending upon inflation. If it is at a 10 per cent rate per year, it could very well be that, depending upon what the Southam index is. How much money are we discussing in this particular vote for this year?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Ab Cam-pion, he will tell you what it is.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I have it right here. What we are talking about is \$3.4 million.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, you know it is coming to us, we are just getting our fair share, really.

Mr. Foulds: It is unfortunate we are getting our fair share of the wrong things, but we are getting our fair share.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Now be careful, that may come back to haunt you, that little statement.

Mr. Foulds: Look, Mr. Minister, I fully understand that in pursuing this I am not pursuing a particularly popular viewpoint from northwestern Ontario. And I understand in pursuing this I may very well be losing some votes, but I think that it is important to pursue it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think we should look at it from that point of view though.

Mr. Foulds: Exactly my point.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, I buy that.

Mr. Foulds: I am pursuing it because I think—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If there are some questions in your mind that you want answered, we are here to answer them.

Mr. Foulds: That's right. Good.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not in a political sense.

Mr. Foulds: All right. The two aren't all that mutually exclusive, unfortunately. That leads me to a fundamental question, and that is: Why did you not call for tenders?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, if I may reply? This is a question that keeps cropping up. I will ask Mr. Keenan to elaborate further; not that I want in any way to pass the buck to previous ministers who were involved in it. But I think it is fair to say that, at that point in time, the government of the day was most anxious to develop a historical, recreational, tourist-oriented type of development, that would reflect the history of northern Ontario in some place in some part of northern Ontario.

I think it is fair to say that many areas were looked at, and after some brief reviews were made, it was decided that Old Fort William was one of those areas that should

be further reviewed and National Heritage Ltd. was the company that appeared to have the expertise—the only expertise available at that point in time—that could develop such a facility and of course develop it with authenticity. I think that's the key to the whole contract.

You will recall I tabled the contract in the Legislature. The report is there for all to see. I think one of the key aspects of that contract is to guarantee as far as humanly possible, that the fort would be reconstructed in its authenticity. There were no other jurisdictions and no other companies known in Canada to have the expertise, the knowledge or the experience, in developing a historical site such as this would be developed.

The federal government at this point in time has not embarked in this direction; it has experts among its own civil servants who do this. You might relate to the development of Ste. Marie - among - the - Hurons which was given to Prof. Jury of the University of Western Ontario to develop. This has been suggested, but here, while they may have had the historical background, I think it's fair to say they did not have the managerial ability or the expertise in this particular field. If you examine what was available at that point in time you will see that there was just nobody else available to do this.

The guarantee, of course, is the way the contract is written, so that the public dollars would be protected. There would be daily scrutiny as to the expenditure. The one clause that I think is most important is one of the final clauses in the contract, that within a six-month period following the completion of the contract, if there was any question on the authenticity, then that could be questioned.

So I think if one reviews the capabilities of this company and one reviews in detail the possibility of engaging other people—and there were none in Canada at that point in time—you will see that there was just no other route to take but to work out an agreement with this particular company, which the minister of the day did.

Mr. Foulds: Two thoughts come to mind; one of them is that it seems to me from our discussion this afternoon that in fact subsequent to the letting of the contract you've developed considerable expertise within your ministry. You've had to do that to support National Heritage and to make up for gaps in their so-called expertise. I have a good deal of respect for some of the people you've

taken on staff within your ministry to support it, but it seems to me that you are propping up or caulking the holes in the leaky vessel. That's one point that I'd like to make.

The other point that I would like to make is, surely to goodness, just from a sense of self-preservation and a sense of political safety, if in fact there was no other company or no other set of people with the expertise to do it in the private sector, calling tenders would have proved that fact and you could have examined the tenders and the submissions and you could take into consideration not only the lowest tender but the package that was offered. Surely to goodness in a sense of common business sense it makes more sense to call a tender. Why do you make the prejudgement, basically on what National Heritage told you? Because they did the feasibility study in the first place?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, because they had the expertise on their staff. I want to put into the record the people who at that point in time were involved in the first report, called "Hinge of a Nation."

Mr. Foulds: The first report of National Heritage?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right.

Mr. Foulds: Not the Way report?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, not the Way report, the "Hinge of a Nation." When you read the list of the noted scholars who are in this list, which I am going to read into the record in a moment, I think you will agree that there was no other company in the Province of Ontario—indeed, in Canada—that was able to bring together such notable academics as these and had done it at that particular point in time. They are: J. M. S. Careless, PhD, who was directly involved in preparing the report "Hinge of a Nation"; J. R. Martin, PhD; J. E. Boucher, ARPS; A. V. Tucker, PhD; A. M. Walmer, MS; M. Zaslow, PhD; and maybe a relative of the member from Thunder Bay, J. Stokesbury, PhD.

An hon. member: Stand up and take a bow, Jack.

Mr. Foulds: It would be better to say the member for Thunder Bay.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And J. I. Rempl, MRAIC; D. Duncan; A. Gowans, PhD; K. G. Hardy, PhD; D. Wright, PhD; F. H. Armstrong, PhD; and none other, of course, than

K. C. A. Dawson, MA, from Lakehead University.

A group of academics, historians and scholars were brought together by National Heritage Ltd., the strongest group known at that point in time.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Are they known?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Are they known?

Mr. Reid: How many of those people were contacted and how many names were just put on the letterhead?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are on a retainer with National Heritage Ltd.

Mr. Reid: I think you should check to find out how many of those people are legitimate.

Mr. Foulds: Prof. Dawson claims, if the news stories are correct, and I think they are on this point, that while he is on retainer, and it is for the amount of \$300 a month — pardon me, \$300 a year — he has never been consulted by National Heritage Ltd.

Secondly, Dr. Careless did resign fairly early on, and something that makes me think something is profoundly wrong, is that when I raised the question in the Legislature about Dr. Careless's resignation and about, I guess it was Mr. Rempel's—I can't put it in any other terms—the “mini witch-hunt” which took place within your ministry at the time. People were accused of giving me information who, in fact, did not give it to me. One person who was not responsible for giving it to me was about to be fired and the person who did, in fact, give the information to me, admitted it, because that person was leaving at the end of the month.

If things are so open and straight, then it seems to me that it is not logical that such heat can be put on lower-level officials within your ministry.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: All I have to say to you is that all of the people I just mentioned were connected, in some way or other, with National Heritage Ltd. and “Hinge of a Nation.” Every one of them was connected at one point in time. If they've had a falling out with National Heritage Ltd., which I understand some of them have had for one reason or another, I think the point of the matter is that here we have the gathering together of a tremendous group of scholars who would guarantee authenticity for the

project itself. No other company, no other group was interested in doing this and National Heritage Ltd. did it.

Mr. Martel: Let me ask you, though — you didn't answer the question Mr. Foulds posed to you—why a witch-hunt took place among your staff.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know of a witch-hunt involving my staff. Not at all.

Mr. Foulds: An employee subsequently left the employment of the ministry because—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm certainly not aware of a witch-hunt involving my staff.

Mr. Foulds: —of the information that I received. What really worries me is not that the person who was going to leave at the end of that particular month anyway did leave your office—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it's fair to state that when you get involved in a project such as this you get certain disagreements among the academics. You know it, and I know it. One of the reasons for the falling out may well have been to guarantee historical authenticity. I'm told that this has cropped up on a number of other projects.

Mr. Martel: The point my colleague raises, and I'm at some point of not knowing who is relating the facts correctly, my colleague says, in fact, that there was a “mini witch-hunt.” People were questioned as to who might have given him the information with respect to Dr. Careless and you're saying that didn't occur. It seems to me that—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It certainly didn't occur in my ministry, to my knowledge.

Mr. Martel: Not to your knowledge. But what about to the knowledge of some of your staff who might have been involved in this? It's been known to happen, Mr. Minister. There have been extensive searches in the Ministry of Mines to find out who gives me information. We both know it, so we can't play games with that one.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are not playing games. We have nothing to hide. Why should there be a witch-hunt?

Mr. Martel: We have sat in your office, Mr. Minister, where you have been very embarrassed with the information that was given to us. Can I recall Black Thursday for you?

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): Yes, you can.

Mr. Martel: On that occasion, in fact, we produced letters from the Ministry of Mines and Inco which were the same.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Martel: You recall that well, don't you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Does this come under the recreational section?

Mr. Martel: No. I just make the point that witch-hunts are known to go on, and on that occasion there certainly was one to find out who gave us the copy of the confidential Inco letter, which was the same as that signed by Allan Lawrence.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm glad you made that point.

Mr. Martel: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am glad you made that point.

Mr. Martel: Yes, I don't blame this minister for it, but there was certainly an intensive search to find out who passed the letter on to us.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, I don't think this has anything to do with the reconstruction of Old Fort William.

Mr. Martel: I just make the point, Mr. Chairman, that the minister says witch-hunts don't go on, and we know full well they do.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Foulds: There is a point that disturbs me. We all understand that a civil servant has to take an oath of secrecy, and there is a legitimate reason for some dovetails and dovecoats flying in the ministry when information has leaked out. But what worries me in this particular instance is that an innocent employee was about to get chopped, until the person who actually gave me the phone call supplied me with the very minimal pieces of information that Dr. Careless and Mr. Rempl had resigned.

That to me is very worrying, because it seems to me there is nervousness within the ministry about the project. And this may not be nervousness that you have to worry about; it may be because the decision were made before your ministry took over.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Let me assure the member for Port Arthur that there is no nervousness about the development of Old Fort William in this ministry. What happened prior to my being transferred over here, I certainly cannot vouch for.

We are enthusiastic about this particular programme. We have some extra people on it. I think you are right in saying that we are developing an expertise in the historical aspect of development of the forts. I am pleased that we are because I think it may well be that the next time around we will be able to do something like this on our own.

Mr. Foulds: Well, then, we get back to the question. If National Heritage was the company that had all these experts, then once again I can't erase from my mind, just in simple political safety terms, why you did not put it out for public tender. If it was put out for tender, and National Heritage makes a bid with its experts, its construction managerial expertise, its historical background that you talk about, and no other company can match it, then its clear. Then the record is absolutely straight.

But as it has happened, you have had to come out with these defences after the fact has become known that no public tender was called. You have had to make these defences piecemeal. It took us months to find out the contrast between the Way report and the National Heritage "Hinge of a Nation" report. There has failed to be an openness and a frankness about the contract, the awarding of it, what is involved, the total money, and I find that very worrying.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I can't agree with those comments, Mr. Chairman. As I said earlier, there were no companies in Canada and no universities other than National Heritage at that time that were capable of the reconstruction of a project of this magnitude with the degree of authenticity that was required in the contract, which was the desire of the government at that particular point in time.

Mr. Foulds: Well, the minister makes—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We could go around in circles really—

Mr. Foulds: All right, all right, we are going around in circles.

Mr. Martel: We only had one tender then, Leo.

Mr. Reid: One could ask legitimately why he didn't ask Lakehead University to do it.

After all, that's one of the things they were put there for.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Your leader, or your defeated leader, I suppose, embarked on a very ambitious campaign to get the leadership of your particular party and suggested this. But I say that while Lakehead University may well have had the historical aspects of it, may have been able to provide the historical input, it did not have the managerial requirements required for a project of this size.

Mr. Reid: What had National Heritage done before of any comparable size? Hardly anything.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't have the list of projects they have embarked on. But they are embarked I think on something like 30 or 40 other major projects. One was Convocation Hall in Toronto. They had the expertise, and no one can question that.

Mr. Foulds: Mr. Minister, you are stretching the imagination when you say that the expertise to reconstruct Convocation Hall in Toronto gives you the same kind of expertise to—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's just one of 30 projects.

Mr. Foulds: Okay. When was the decision made not to go for a straight historical site but to include the recreational and tourism aspects? Was that before it got into your ministry?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: From reading the report and checking the files, I think it was always the government's intention that it be a combination of both. It would have historical authenticity and also have a tourist flavour so it would provide economic benefit to northern Ontario, and be a development that would retain people in northern and northwest Ontario for a period of time. I think you will agree with me that there have been complaints that there really isn't anything for visitors to northwestern Ontario to see or do other than fish and hunt. There was no major site where they could look back on Canada's past, spend a little time in part of the past and our historical culture, and spend some time reviewing where we belong. Maybe some of the staff have some comments on it, but that to me was the thrust right from square one.

Mr. Foulds: Westminster Abbey and most of the historical sites in Europe, including

the Acropolis—which is somewhat in ruins—don't feel the need to have slide shows and what-have-you going on to attract people. The authenticity, if you like one word that you made much of, is enough to attract.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I might ask a question. You know, you are directing questions at me.

Mr. Foulds: Sure.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: When was the last time you were at Old Fort William?

Mr. Foulds: The same day the Queen was.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm surprised since this is in your riding and—

Mr. Foulds: No, no. It's in the riding of the hon. member for Fort William (Mr. Jessiman.)

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —it's so close to you and so many of you are directly involved in the reconstruction of Old Fort William that you have not made it a point to visit it. I have been there at least three or four times and I will be there on May 24. I would appreciate it if you would join me and the member for Fort William in officially declaring it open for another season. I think that you will be more than impressed to see what has happened in the last year.

Mr. Laughren: That's probably—

Mr. Foulds: Speaking of opening the season on May 24—how long is the season?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It goes to Sept. 13 this year. I might add that we've invited the school children from northwest Ontario to come and visit Old Fort William free of charge, as an educational experience, to see what we are doing in Old Fort William and to gain a real appreciation of that particular development.

Further to this, I will be announcing at that particular time that the tartan which I am sure you are interested in—this certain individual who has developed the northwestern Ontario tartan may well be from your area—will be the official tartan for Old Fort William, which will be worn by all the guys.

Mr. Foulds: You are going to put a tartan on the fort or the people?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: On the people working there.

Mr. Reid: On the native Indians.

Mr. Foulds: Of course, the Macgillivrays and so on.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, the Macgillivrays were very much involved in this and I'm very proud that they were.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Minister, may I ask—and maybe you've been over this—if you yourself feel that it was proper that—Mr. Campion was, I believe, executive assistant to Mr. Auld at the time and was, I think, a vice-president or manager of this company—the contract should have been given to a company which had that kind of liaison with the government? You know, if for no other reason than that we should all appear like Caesar's wife, like Mr. Atkey, who was a Conservative candidate, and so on. Do you not feel that there was—pardon me?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do I not feel what?

Mr. Reid: Do you not feel that it is a little bit much to expect people not to have some doubts when the executive assistant to the minister also happens to be in the higher echelons of the company?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think so. The fact that he happens to be a Liberal or a Tory or a New Democrat shouldn't reflect on his ability to do the job. It shouldn't reflect at all. As I understand it—

Mr. Reid: It certainly doesn't hurt him to be in the Conservative Party.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —he joined long after National Heritage was given the contract to construct the fort.

Mr. Reid: I'm sorry, I didn't catch that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Campion joined National Heritage long after National Heritage was given the contract to construct the fort.

Mr. Reid: How about Mr. Atkey? Was he a member of National Heritage?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Atkey was a legal adviser to National Heritage. He was not involved financially, as I understand it—and I have to say this from press reports; I've not checked it out—he accepted a position with National Heritage solely for legal fees, or for the legal work that he did for National Heritage, and took a part of the action which was very minimal. I think he mentioned this in one of his letters to the editor in the Globe and Mail.

Mr. Reid: Let's just put it on this basis, it bothers me that you don't seem to feel that regardless of any wrongdoing, whether there was or wasn't the fact that the executive assistant to Mr. Auld, who apparently okayed this project after—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Now wait a minute, an executive assistant does not okay a contract.

Mr. Reid: I said it was the executive assistant to the minister who okayed the project—after Mr. Way had suggested that you'd be making a Disneyland out of it and money could better be spent otherwise, and then, consequently, Mr. Campion winds up with a fairly nice position with that company. I don't know who you think you are kidding. I don't want to appear overly cynical, of course, but it just smells somewhat high for those circumstances to have happened, especially in view of the fact that you didn't call for tenders.

The minister is aware that today in the Legislature his colleague, the Minister of Transportation and Communications (Mr. Rhodes)—and I'm sure the minister is as interested as I am—announced the norOntario Northwest service. That ministry is going to ask for proposals or tenders from the air carriers in the area, some of whom already had the charters and had the run, so they are the only ones eligible to put in a proposal.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's the point. They are the only ones eligible to do it and capable of doing it.

Mr. Reid: All right, but that is—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The same thing applies to National Heritage.

Mr. Reid: Yes, but the point is, the ministry is asking for proposals or tenders—and you never did, or Mr. Auld never did, or his department never did. Surely you see the distinction there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No I don't. Maybe I'm dense.

Mr. Martel: No, you are blind.

Mr. Reid: Well, I don't know; do you agree with Mr. Moog and Canada Square getting the Hydro building, because supposedly he was the only one?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Certainly. You are casting innuendoes here that you cannot justify and back up. Mr. Moog went through a very intense investigation by a committee of

this Legislature and was completely exonerated, really.

Mr. Reid: But did you not learn a lesson from that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You cast innuendoes and you can't prove them.

Mr. Reid: I am not casting innuendoes, I am suggesting—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes you are.

Mr. Reid: I am just trying to point out a principle here to you that to avoid this kind of thing that you do ask for tenders.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You can't compare this to the development of the Ontario Hydro building here on University Ave. As I pointed out earlier—

Mr. Reid: The principles are the same. You are saying they were the only one. That's what Hydro said. Moog was the only one who—

Mr. Chairman: The member is out of order. Mr. Foulds?

Mr. Reid: I am not finished yet, Mr. Chairman, and I am not about to be cut off by you.

Mr. Chairman: Well, you are out of order, you are out of order now.

Mr. Reid: I am making a point about the policy of this ministry in regard to proposing and tendering, and I have a perfect right to make that.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Foulds: First of all, the minister has made a good deal of the necessity for authenticity in the site. I think we all agree on that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will agree on it six months after the completion of the contract, when we have satisfied ourselves, as have the local historians, that this fort is as historically accurate as is humanly possible at this point in time. Then we will agree.

Mr. Foulds: As humanly possible at this point in time. The difficulty is that there has been, and there was, a fundamental flaw in judgement. That fundamental flaw is that it is not located on the original site. You are building a Northwest Co. fort on what was a Hudson's Bay site. I would have been happier about this discussion this afternoon and evening if we had been able to get past the Premier (Mr. Davis) the answer to the

question that I placed on the order paper so that we could have had a more detailed and full discussion of the item.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I remember that, I saw that.

Mr. Foulds: I think you might tuck away in your mind a little addendum that I thought of afterward. How many native people were found jobs on the project? This was one of the original criteria that was set up in the first place.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This was a union contract, and the staff working there were hired through the local union. In addition, we have made a concerted effort to have Indian girls working as guides in Old Fort William. We will continue and accelerate this, because this is a natural, let's be honest.

Mr. D. J. Wiseman (Lanark): Mr. Chairman, would you mind asking everybody to speak up a little more. With the noise, we can't hear a thing over here.

Mr. Reid: You might come over closer to us.

Mr. B. Gilbertson (Algoma): And, Mr. Minister, could they refrain from smoking too, please?

Mr. Chairman: No.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is one of the privileges allowed in the committee.

Mr. Chairman: Coming from a large tobacco-producing area along with the member for Haldimand-Norfolk (Mr. Allan), I will have to allow smoking.

Mr. Gilbertson: I don't mind the little smokers, it's the big ones, the Inco type, that I care about.

Mr. Chairman: Continue, Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Foulds: I want to ask one or two questions before I wrap this up. It occurred to me because you are making a concerted effort to get native people as guides for the project itself. How is the project to be administered after completion? Has the decision been made on that yet?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It will be handled by the Ministry of Natural Resources reporting directly to the region. We are asking Industry and Tourism to become directly involved in the promotion and the advertising of this particular project because I think a project of this size needs expertise from that particu-

lar ministry to promote it across Ontario and to tie it into their overall tourist attraction package.

Mr. Foulds: I understand that originally there was some thought given to having the National Heritage manage it afterwards, but that—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is no intention of doing it at this point.

Mr. Foulds: I just want to wrap up. In spite of the discussion we have had I still feel there is a fundamental flaw in the authenticity argument, and that is its location. Given that, then, it seems to me that your ministry is making extraordinary steps about the authenticity of the fort. I am not convinced that National Heritage would do it if you weren't on their tails as much as you are.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I can assure you that fellows like Bob Richardson and Mr. Bowes, who are very capable people in our ministry, are riding on National Heritage on a day-to-day, hour-by-hour basis. We will have something the people of the province can be proud of.

Mr. Foulds: It does seem to me, however, that you cannot base an economy of a region solely on this kind of project. It aids an area, but it does not help fundamentally to build—

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): It sounds like you don't want it up there. Are you sure you want it?

Mr. Foulds: —a strong economic infrastructure for the area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do you want it in your area?

Mr. Haggerty: Sure, we would be delighted to have something like that down in our area.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Foulds: I made it very clear.

Mr. Haggerty: I don't think you want it.

Mr. Laughren: There are the Liberals taking the side of the Tories again.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Foulds: Of course the Liberals would take anything that was handed to them without critically examining it if they felt it would benefit them directly and personally with their members.

Mr. Haggerty: We are flexible. You have been beating around the bush here for an hour and you haven't said you are for it.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Laughren: Move back a row, Ray.

Mr. Haggerty: Are you for it or against it?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Foulds: You know, Ray, I hate to have to say this, but you are the most toothless tiger in these estimates that I have seen in a long time.

Mr. Haggerty: Oh, come on now.

Mr. Foulds: You are supposed to be the official critic for your party.

Mr. Haggerty: That's right, I am.

Mr. Foulds: What criticism means in this Legislature is examining in detail items that you feel some concern about.

Mr. Haggerty: You said it last year.

Mr. Foulds: And that is what I am trying to do. If the investigation leads nowhere and the ministry exonerates itself, that is good too. That is part of the democratic process.

Mr. Reid: It is unfortunate, but it is part of the process.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll buy that.

Mr. Stokes: Well, don't throw it out until you get a better one.

Mr. Reid: Oh, in the exoneration part that's—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think I made it very clear in my opening remarks that we'd like the discussion of Old Fort William and I appreciate that.

Mr. Foulds: But I do feel that the decision was not made on sound economic grounds originally.

It was made to some extent on a political judgement of what was good for the area, and there was a rush to a decision before the 1971 election. If the decision to proceed with the project had been held off and considered more carefully you could have avoided a number of embarrassments that have subsequently arisen. If you hadn't rushed to get National Heritage, if you had taken three months to call for tenders, you would have been in the clear.

You might have been able, with the patience that is necessary to work with the federal Liberal government, to get them to co-operate on the project and move the rail lines in the east end and build it on the original site. I think it is still necessary to have the answer to the question on the order paper and to make available the detailed studies and projects.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The answers to the question on the order paper will be tabled very shortly. It had been brought together within my ministry at great expense to the people of the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Laughren: Oh sure, it is part of the democratic process, too.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I say that with sincerity. And rightly so. If any member of this Legislature is anxious to know the answers to certain questions, of course, we have the obligation to supply it, and we are glad to supply it. We have nothing to hide. We are proud of the development at Old Fort William and there is no embarrassment attached to it.

Mr. Laughren: Unlike some aspects of your ministry.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The decision, as the member for Port Arthur knows, was very hotly debated in his city. There was a lot of public input.

Mr. Foulds: After the fact. After the initial decision was made.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Two ministers were involved, so you can't say that one minister was locked into a particular idea or programme. The idea was originated with my colleague, the Hon. James Auld, who was recognized across this province as one of the finest Ministers of Tourism and Information that we have had. He was ably followed by my colleague, the hon. member for Stormont, Fern Gindon, who originally signed that contract. So I have every faith in their ability to exercise something that will be good for northwestern Ontario as a whole.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask two or three questions concerning Old Fort William. You may have gone over this. If so, I'll read Hansard of this afternoon and get it.

I'd like to say before I ask the questions that we'd certainly be most happy if the Ministry of Natural Resources with tenders, of course, would build a replica of LaVéren-

drye's fort at Fort Frances, one of the first forts in western Ontario and in the west for many years. But we could get into that some other time.

Could you tell me just how much National Heritage is getting for its expertise and management work?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The contract has been tabled in the Legislature showing the various percentages they receive as consultants. The total cost of the project itself has been mentioned as about \$12 million.

Mr. Reid: Twelve million dollars, and I believe, if I recall—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I might mention, in answer to your further question, while we may be not looking at this point in time at LaVérendrye, we are looking at the Manitou Mountains.

Mr. Reid: The Manitou Mountains I think would be a fantastic historical site. I understand that finally you have moved on that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right. We purchased more property.

Mr. Reid: I hope that you'll purchase all of it before it's used for gravel because I think it has more significance in the long run for us than Old Fort William.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We agree with that.

Mr. Reid: I believe, if I recall correctly, that National Heritage was to receive \$1 million. Was it in that range?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't have the details of the contract with me. But it's the normal consultants' fee that any consultant receives.

Mr. Reid: That was my next question. How did you arrive at what their fee would be?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That was clearly outlined. Maybe Mr. Richardson could outline to us just how those percentages are arrived at. I think it's a schedule that is clearly outlined in architect's and consultant's fees. There is no question in the minds of anyone here that National Heritage received any further consideration than anyone else would receive.

Mr. Reid: Is Mr. Richardson going to reply?

Mr. R. J. Richardson (Project Administrator, Fort William): National Heritage are paid payroll for staff, which comes under the head-

ing of PMA and PMB. PMA is the staff which is engaged in the historical research. They get their basic payroll, which is established in the contract, on hourly rates. On top of that they get 150 per cent for overhead. The technical side of the work, which is PMB, is paid on the basis of 10 per cent for phase 1 of the project based upon the cost of construction, and seven per cent for phases 2 and 4. How the figures of seven and 10 per cent were arrived at, I don't know. Basically it was negotiated at the time the contract was agreed to.

Mr. Reid: This was a matter of negotiation, then. I don't know what analogy I can think of but if you are superintending a contract for someone else, is the fee 10 per cent? Usually?

Mr. Richardson: An architect would normally get anything, depending on the type of work. It's a sliding scale and for normal work it would be in the vicinity of six or seven per cent but for reconstruction work it would go higher than that.

Mr. Reid: You mean there are architects that are engaged in reconstruction work?

Mr. Richardson: I understand there are.

Mr. Reid: Might they not have been available to bid on this contract or provide expertise?

Mr. Richardson: I don't think the architects would have the facilities for doing the historical research that National Heritage had on their team.

Mr. Reid: You don't think, or you know that?

Mr. Richardson: I know that.

Mr. Reid: So that all the other historical buildings and so on in the Province of Ontario, and in Canada for that matter, have been done by whom then? Just various government levels?

Mr. Richardson: I don't think I am qualified to answer that question.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think Mr. Keenan could respond to that last question.

Mr. J. W. Keenan (Executive Director, Division of Parks): Mr. Chairman, I can't respond, obviously, in respect of all of the reconstructions but generally speaking the practice of, for instance, the national historic parks and sites branch, has been essentially to undertake within government the construc-

tion, utilizing subcontractors, but carrying out the research—

Mr. Reid: Themselves.

Mr. Keenan: Themselves, yes. To the extent that there have been historical reconstructions in other provinces, and there aren't that many outside of the federal government, to the best of my knowledge this has been the general practice.

Mr. Reid: Well, Mr. Keenan, I'm still not satisfied with how the 10 per cent plus 150 per cent overhead was arrived at and the seven percent Mr. Richardson mentioned by negotiation. Were you privy to all this? Were you part of this?

Mr. Keenan: No, sir. I was not. What Mr. Richardson was saying was that for one segment of the contract there is a 150 per cent overhead clause which is not uncommon in consulting contracts—100 per cent over and above the firm's out-of-pocket cost. This is quite common in any consulting firm. In terms of the—

Mr. Reid: I have heard of cost plus 10 but cost plus 100 per cent—150 per cent seems—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Now wait a minute. I think you should clarify the details.

Mr. Keenan: The 150 per cent overhead is consistent if you hire a planning firm. One would normally expect to pay for competent planning consultants something of the order of \$200 to \$250 a day, for instance, which certainly represents I would say approximately 150 per cent of salary to these people. So this isn't unusual. Now, the other aspect of the contract is a 10 and seven per cent factor, and then furthermore there is the builder, Pigott Project Management—it's 3.25 per cent factor that is applied there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That 100 per cent figure to which you refer covers overhead.

Mr. Reid: One hundred and fifty per cent, I believe Mr. Richardson said.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: One hundred and fifty per cent, yes—the normal practice used by the Ontario Professional Engineers Association and the Ontario Architects Association. As Mr. Keenan has correctly pointed out, this is a normal fee. Nothing abnormal about it at all.

Mr. Reid: I wasn't suggesting—I just wanted to know how you arrived at those figures, that's all. I think I'll go into the historical business.

Mr. Chairman: Now, we'll go to the St. Lawrence Parks Commission.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, before we go into that, we are not passing this vote that is under—

Mr. Chairman: No, we are not passing this item.

Mr. Stokes: It is just because the staff is here.

Mr. Reid: Yes, I realize that.

Mr. Chairman: No, we are not passing item 2, because there are some other members who want to speak on it. So we'll now go to the St. Lawrence Parks Commission. I'll call on Mr. Haggerty first.

Mr. Stokes: No, you have an opening statement.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Rollins, do you want to make an opening statement with respect to the St. Lawrence Parks Commission?

Mr. C. T. Rollins (Hastings): Well, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Minister, members of the committee, I would like to take this opportunity of extending to you my appreciation for giving us this opportunity. We are opening our St. Lawrence Parks Commission operation tomorrow and they go through until Oct. 15.

The St. Lawrence Parks Commission was established in 1955 as an agency of the Province of Ontario to safeguard and enhance the scenic beauty and preserve the historical association with the international rapids section of the St. Lawrence River, affected by the generation of electrical power under the terms of the Canada and Ontario agreement of Dec. 3, 1951.

The commission's prime duty is to develop, control, manage, operate and maintain recreational parks and historical sites with the major objective being to attract visitors to eastern Ontario to support the regional economy through the tourist industry.

The head office, located at Morrisburg, is responsible for implementing and administering commission and ministry policies and a wide variety of programmes. The revenues are submitted to the Treasury of Ontario. We have 12 members on the commission, and three ladies among the 12. The 12 include the chairman and the vice-chairman.

I have a breakdown for the various branches, but if there are any questions I would prefer to try to answer them.

Mr. Chairman: Actually you should give that breakdown first, Mr. Rollins.

Mr. Rollins: Would you like a breakdown of the various branches?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I may be intruding now, but the members might be interested in the allocation of the funds, why there is an increase and this type of thing.

Mr. Chairman: You should give the breakdown and then Mr. Haggerty will follow.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. John Sloan, I might say, has taken over the responsibility of managing director of the St. Lawrence Parks Commission. He comes from that very well operated historical site known as Ste. Marie-among-the-Hurons. He is former director of the historical parks branch. Mr. Sloan.

Mr. J. R. Sloan (General Manager, St. Lawrence Parks Commission): Mr. Chairman, under salaries, as you can note there is \$2,812,100. This is an increase of \$375,100, which primarily is due to arbitration awards, merit increases and shift premiums. Employee benefits are at \$163,900, which is an increase of \$35,500; services, \$636,000, which is an increase of \$193,000; and supplies and equipment, \$1,079,000, which is an increase of \$304,100, for a total increase of \$908,000.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: Under supplies and equipment, with an increase of \$304,000, what did this consist of? What type of equipment are you buying?

Mr. Sloan: In that item there is only \$61,000 towards equipment. Over \$500,000 is for the purchase of salable merchandise for our gift shops at Upper Canada Village and Fort Henry. We get a return on that investment. There is a revenue derived from that.

Mr. Haggerty: What would the revenue be then?

Mr. Sloan: The total revenue for the fiscal year 1973-1974 in rounded figures was \$2,400,000.

An hon. member: Not bad!

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It has increased. I think the commission should be congratulated.

Mr. Sloan: I should note that in attendance at St. Lawrence Parks and in our camping in 1973 we were up 15 per cent. We were up six per cent in attendance at Upper Canada Village and 12 per cent at Fort Henry. Our total parks overall were up 13 per cent,

so we experienced a rather rewarding 1973 and we are confident that in 1974 it will be even better.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you get any water rentals from that power project in that area?

Mr. Sloan: No, we don't.

Mr. Haggerty: Who gets the water rentals?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Consolidated revenue.

Mr. Stokes: How many visitors did you have to your total operation?

Mr. Sloan: Over 3 million.

Mr. Stokes: Three million, eh? All right, now, Mr. Sloan, when you appeared before us last year, you had only been on the job about a week, I think it was. We were appreciative of the fact that you came and gave us an idea of what was going on with such short tenure on the job. Now that you have had about a year to look at it, you said that you were going to look at a major overhaul of the operation; that you were looking into increases in sites and that you had embarked upon a study or a survey to see where you should be placing the emphasis; whether it should be sites or other things, such as the attraction at Fort Henry. You were going to do, in effect, a mini-overall survey, something similar to TORPS, to see how you could better serve the public and provide an overall recreational and educational experience for young and old.

Could you give us a breakdown as to how you have done with your survey and whether or not you have sense of direction as a result of it?

Mr. Sloan: Yes, first of all, in preliminary surveys carried out during last year's operation, we were determining points of destination of our visitors. We found that 80 per cent of our visitors to sites, both parks and historical sites were Canadian. The breakdown of that 80 per cent was that 48 per cent of our visitors were from the Province of Ontario; some 30 per cent were from the Province of Quebec; two per cent were from the remaining provinces; 19 per cent were from the United States, and 1 per cent was from other countries—which will give you a total of 100 per cent. I think that comes to 100, Mr. Stokes.

So, first of all, that gave us the directions as to who our consumers were and what emphasis we should put on our markets. We feel that there should be an emphasis on letting people in Ontario know about the rich

resources that are in eastern Ontario, because we don't feel that the 48 per cent is strong enough representation of visitors from the Province of Ontario. We also feel that we haven't even tapped the potential market in the Province of Quebec, which is at our very doorstep.

You are talking about a population of 2.5 million people in Montreal alone. We feel that we should be tapping that particular market. Also, they are our neighbours to the north. So, in our communications programme for 1974, we are expanding our advertising programme, in newspapers in particular and in transit systems in Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston and Montreal. We will have attractive cards in the transit systems in those major metropolitan cities.

Mr. Stokes: All right, I think a natural question follows from that. What is your overall philosophy? Obviously, people want to be "recreated" and they want to have some place to get out and spend their leisure time. Do you think it is wise? I know you have a lot of unused areas and there is a lot of room for expansion. But are you really out to put this on a paying basis and to have it like a Broadway or a Coney Island or anything like that? Why don't you just say "it is there if you want it"?

Now, sure, you don't want to keep it open all year round if it is not going to be well patronized, but it seems to me that if you had three million visitors, I think it has proved itself as a recreational area and as an educational area. If you are going to double the number of visitors, it is going to detract from the overall environment there. Your overzealousness in attracting people to the area might be your downfall. I'm wondering how intensively you want this thing used in order to maintain the character that it seems to have?

Forgive me, I've never been there and I'm going to go this summer. But from what I read of it and what I hear of it, it's an excellent facility and I think you're to be complimented. Do you think that it's wise to say, "Let's get more people in"?

We're trying to do just the opposite in many other areas, saying, "Let's keep it the way it is to the greatest extent possible."

I'm just wondering, what's your philosophy?

Mr. Sloan: That's a fair statement. From the figures we have we don't feel that our sites, either the parks or historic sites, are taxed. There is a great variety of recreational opportunity for the people of the Province of

Ontario and our guests. To increase from 3 million to 4.5 million we don't feel, at the moment, would tax the environment or our resources. We're looking at the shoulder months so that we're talking about 12 months of recreation.

You might be interested in knowing that we opened for the first time this winter three miles of marked, groomed cross-country ski trails. It was a poor winter for cross-country skiing in eastern Ontario but the initial reaction by the people to those three miles of trails through the sugarbush was amazing. It's made us take a look at whether we should be developing more cross-country ski trails.

As the minister mentioned last night, we have 60 miles of cross-country snowmobile trails. We're looking to being able to groom more of those trails than we have in the past. We're trying to emphasize not only the May 15 to Oct. 15 period, but the 12-month recreational opportunity that exists in the lands controlled by the St. Lawrence Parks Commission.

Mr. Stokes: How do your rates compare with provincial parks and other privately owned facilities?

Mr. Sloan: Our rates are consistent with provincial parks. In other words, our policy is the same as provincial parks.

Mr. Stokes: I must say you come closer to breaking even on your total operation. I suppose your curio shops and things of that nature must be operated at a profit, because you come much closer. If you're asking us for \$4.7 million and your revenue was \$2.4 million, it's not all that bad.

Mr. Sloan: No. Our merchandising and revenue in the sales outlets at Upper Canada Village and Fort Henry are fairly lucrative. Getting back to Mr. Haggerty's comment under supplies and equipment, \$500,000 of that is for the purchase of salable merchandise.

Mr. Haggerty: Where is this material purchased? Here in Ontario? Is it manufactured in Ontario, or is it manufactured in Japan and brought over here?

Mr. Sloan: No.

Mr. Stokes: Taiwan.

Mr. Haggerty: Are you sure about that?

Mr. Sloan: The majority of our salable merchandise is purchased in Canada. It's Canadian-made.

Mr. Haggerty: It's Canadian-made, eh? I'm talking about our first citizens. I mean the goods that they usually sell. Do you buy from them?

Mr. Sloan: Yes, we do.

Mr. Haggerty: It's authentic then, is it?

Mr. Sloan: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: It's not stamped "made in Japan" like some of the stuff.

Mr. Sloan: No, sir.

Mr. Haggerty: Oh, no. I'm talking about the Niagara Parks Commission. That's quite a habit down there—buying merchandise from Japan and then putting a stamp "Canada" on it over here. It's been quite a practice and I'm delighted to see that it doesn't happen down in this area.

Mr. Stokes: What is the total acreage of the parks commission?

Mr. Sloan: In excess of 7,000 acres.

Mr. Stokes: Seven thousand.

Mr. Sloan: And that runs 170 miles from the Ontario-Quebec border to about 30 miles west of Kingston.

Mr. M. C. Germa (Sudbury): Could I ask the minister why this particular acreage is so unique that we have to have a special commission running it? Why could this not be taken over by your parks branch and run in the normal manner of a provincial park? From what I understand, this is running in competition to our parks programme.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, it certainly is not. Have you been down to the St. Lawrence Parks Commission?

Mr. Germa: No, I have never been there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I would certainly invite you to go down and see the operation. It's unique in Ontario. It really is. It's similar to the point in the Niagara Parks Commission. It has Old Fort Henry, it has Upper Canada Village, and it is something that I think that if you, as a northerner, would go down and see—

Mr. Haggerty: You wouldn't want to leave it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —you'd be envious, really. You really would. I've been there on many occasions myself. I have to say that the day is going to come, and maybe the member

will agree with me, when you would want to have something like this in northern Ontario. It's that unique, that different. It has to be run with a separate commission to really make it the way it should be.

Mr. Germa: You seem to run campgrounds; you run picnic tables, ski trails and I know you do snowmobiling on this acreage. You do this in provincial parks as well. I'm making a point. Is it really necessary to have this division of jurisdiction?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I think it is because the St. Lawrence Parks Commission was developed over the years following the flooding of the St. Lawrence River. There was relocation of many historical buildings in southeastern Ontario where the local community played a very active part and takes a great deal of pride in that particular area. It became obvious, with the development of that St. Lawrence Parks Commission, that these people still wanted a say in the development and the operation and promotion in that area. It gives them an opportunity and they can operate as a commission separately. They have an opportunity to show their expertise as we have here at the table this evening, and it's functioning very well. I just find it difficult to find words to explain and to describe the operation of the St. Lawrence Parks Commission.

Mr. Haggerty: There is nothing wrong with competition within your ministry. It keeps the rest of them on their toes.

Mr. Germa: Can I ask what the salaries of the commissioners are, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I'm sure the chairman would be glad to give that information. Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Rollins: The salaries?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The salaries, yes.

Mr. Rollins: The commissioners are paid on a monthly basis and they're paid mileage that is involved and it's \$50 per diem allowance.

Mr. Germa: Per meeting?

Mr. Rollins: Per meeting.

Mr. Germa: It's not a monthly salary?

Mr. Rollins: No, no. I'm sorry. We have a monthly meeting, Mr. Chairman, but it's per meeting.

Mr. Germa: Plus expenses?

Mr. Rollins: Per day, yes, on the mileage.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This rate has been approved by management board.

Mr. Germa: What about the chairman? What is his salary?

Mr. Rollins: The chairman is slightly less—\$5,000 plus mileage.

Mr. Germa: He's on a yearly basis? Is that right?

Mr. Rollins: Yes, that's right.

Mr. Germa: And the rest are on a per day.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Per diem.

Mr. Rollins: Per diem, and the vice-chairman is on a yearly basis.

Mr. Germa: What is his salary? The vice-chairman.

Mr. Rollins: Twenty-five hundred dollars. I'm sorry, the meeting rate for the commissioners is \$60 now instead of \$50.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Root.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Yes, Mr. Chairman. I'm quite interested in the way this park and Upper Canada Village have developed. In my first speech in the House 22 years ago there were no villages. That is one of the things I suggested. I was seconding the motion to adopt the Speech from the Throne and I said I thought it was time we had a village to preserve the story of the development of the province. I said it could be a tourist attraction and could be a great source of education for our young people to find out how the people lived who opened up this country and developed it.

You have that down at Upper Canada Village and I want to congratulate you on what I've seen there. To see that sawmill with an up-and-down saw—we don't see that kind of thing today. But that's the way they started this country.

Mr. Haggerty: The woollen mill.

Mr. Root: The woollen mill where you weave blankets. Ralph Connors' log school. I have a very interesting picture of that log school. I had the supervisor of sewage works looking at the sewage disposal system for that log school. I snapped his picture.

These villages, to me, have sparked an interest in the history of our own province and it has spread out, from not only that village, but you have the one in Waterloo at Doone. They're scattered all over. They're

restoring Ste Marie - among - the - Hurons and Old Fort William, and I think it's a wonderful thing. We're attracting millions of people.

Did you say you had three million people visit that park system this past year? I think if we look at what they paid—many of them are from out of the province—not only to enter the village but in sales tax and in other ways it is actually an economic paying facility, plus it is telling the story of the development of the province.

I've often wondered what our American friends think when they look at the plan of the battle of Crysler's farm. I never realized until I went to Upper Canada Village and saw it that 600 regulars, a couple of hundred or so Canadian militia and 40 Indians defeated an army of 4,000 Americans. They went back or we might not have had Canada. This is how we developed and I want to pay my tribute to the development of your park system, Upper Canada Village and to the whole historical development of the province.

You answered some of the questions I wanted to ask. Of the three million people how many went to the village itself last year?

Mr. Sloan: Three hundred and fifty-five thousand.

Mr. Root: Three hundred and fifty-five thousand? They got an idea of how this country started. Many of these would be school children; have you any idea how many school children go?

Mr. Sloan: Seventy thousand.

Mr. Root: Seventy thousand? This is part of an educational programme and I think it is a wonderful thing I hope they develop some of these forts we've heard about up in the northern part of the province.

I don't agree with everything that Pierre Berton does but I think he made a tremendous contribution in—

Mr. Stokes: Northern Ontario Place?

Mr. Root: —the film the Royal Trust showed, "The National Dream." It took people with vision, using very primitive tools, to lay the foundation of what we've got today and I take my hat off to those people. The member says they were Tories.

Mr. Germa: We are still paying for it, too.

Mr. Root: All right but—

Mr. Stokes: Twenty-five million dollars and 25 million acres later.

Mr. Root: Okay, but we have a country and if it hadn't been for some of these things we'd never have had a country. I pay my respects.

Mr. Germa: Maybe that's why one-third of us are still hungry.

An hon. member: I don't think you are.

Mr. Stokes: May I ask the chairman or Mr. Sloan if senior citizens are allowed in free the same way as they are in provincial parks?

Mr. Sloan: Yes, they are and they are also allowed in Fort Henry; all the parks and the village. They have all privileges, 65 and over, no questions asked.

Mr. Stokes: Thank you.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Could I ask a question, Mr. Chairman? I gather this would be quite a help to university students and other students in the area. Could you give us an idea of how many students actually are employed during the open season of the various parks you have?

Mr. Sloan: Our seasonal staff totals in the neighbourhood of 450 and we would employ about 200 students directly in seasonal work.

Mr. Ferrier: The other people would be older citizens who live in the area. Do they come back year after year to the various jobs they have there, running the mill, weaving and working with the wool, etc.?

Mr. Sloan: I'd say that close to 85 per cent of those people return. Many of them have been with us since 1961.

Mr. Ferrier: I would like to say that I went there a couple of years ago and it was a real highlight for me and the members of my family who went. I'd like to congratulate the chairman and his commission and those involved in it; and to thank the chairman who, year after year, makes it possible for those of us in the Legislature to go as often as we like.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Maeck.

Mr. L. Maeck (Parry Sound): Yes, I have a question for Mr. Sloan. I was interested in the remark you made about trying to keep the operation going for 12 months of the year. Coming from a riding that deals

mainly with tourists I'm wondering what you do in the spring and the fall to encourage business at that time of the year?

Mr. Sloan: Excuse me, in the spring, that means before May 15?

Mr. Maeck: Yes.

Mr. Sloan: One of the things we have is a major sugarbush operation which attracts a considerable number of people to see the sugaring-off. We have displays in our sugarbush, which is about 300 acres of land. In the fall we attempt to have special events that would generate traffic that normally wouldn't come during July and August.

Mr. Maeck: Well, I haven't had the privilege yet of visiting your place, but I'm wondering if you are in an area where you can take advantage of the fall colours.

Mr. Sloan: As a resident of eastern Ontario, I would like to think that the fall colours are as nice as they are in Muskoka or in your area.

Mr. Maeck: How about Parry Sound?

Mr. Sloan: Or Parry Sound.

Mr. Maeck: Thank you.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Getting parochial now.

Mr. Chairman: You're getting too political, Mr. Maeck.

Mr. Maeck: No, but what I'm saying is, do you have a programme regarding the fall colours, as we do in Parry Sound and Muskoka?

Mr. Sloan: At present we do not.

Mr. Maeck: Not now. Fine, thank you.

Mr. Wiseman: Could you tell us what special events you have in the fall to draw the people?

Mr. Sloan: We are attempting to generate special events around activities that would normally take place in the fall of the year in a pioneer village, for example, so that people would make weekend trips to Upper Canada Village, for special events there. We sort of have a theme for weekends to give an added incentive to people to make a day trip or a weekend visit to eastern Ontario. We hope to expand that kind of programme throughout the system. We're just looking at that right now.

Mr. Wiseman: And you advertise that by way of brochures or something?

Mr. Sloan: Yes. By spot advertising on radio and by newspaper advertising.

Mr. Root: Do you make apple cider in the fall?

Mr. Haggerty: There's also the thing with the wagon wheels. I've noticed your advertisements on that. That's a joint promotion between the Department of Tourism of Quebec and the Province of Ontario. You've got quite a bit of spotlight on that.

Mr. Sloan: Yes. That's the new heritage highways programme, which has just been initiated; it is a co-operative venture between the Ministry of Industry and Tourism of Ontario and their counterparts in the Province of Quebec. By the way, they are just about to mark, through MTC in Ontario, a heritage highway route all the way from the Quebec border to Niagara, to attempt to get people off Highway 401 and on to the more scenic routes.

Mr. Root: Do you make apple cider in the fall?

Mr. Sloan: Yes, we do.

Mr. Haggerty: What about applejack?

Mr. Rollins: Mr. Chairman, I might add that we have a 3,500-acre wildlife sanctuary, nature trails and a railway exhibit. In our sanctuary we have many hundreds of wild beasts, and a considerable number of people come to see the geese that come down in the area of Upper Canada Village. Also, the golf course opposite Upper Canada Village is a tremendous attraction to people. You'll notice that our passes to members include an extension to use that golf course.

Mr. Wiseman: Could I ask you about the golf course? Are you allowing golf carts on there now? I remember I got into a real mixup with one of my men, a crippled lad who loves to play golf if he can use his golf cart. Are we able to use them now?

Mr. Sloan: Starting this season, we are allowing electric golf carts on our golf course; we've acquired six carts that will be available on a rental basis.

Mr. Wiseman: You have to rent them?

Mr. Sloan: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, the members of the committee might be interested in knowing that it's the end of the second period of the fourth game of the Stanley Cup finals, and Philadelphia and Boston are tied 2-2.

An hon. member: At the end of the first period.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The first period, I'm sorry.

An hon. member: It took them over an hour to play the first period.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There were 18 fights.

Mr. Chairman: Is there any further discussion on this vote? If not, shall item 4 carry?

Item 4 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Well, we'll revert to item 2, recreational areas, and the first speaker is Mr. Germa.

Mr. Germa: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a general question about the progress that's being made in the Killarney wilderness area park.

As a result of public meetings, there were volumes of criticism levelled at the ministry for designating this park as a wilderness area. I would just like to read a couple of points that came out in the summary of submissions made on the planning options for the Killarney wilderness area park.

One of them is allowing non-conforming land uses—a double-handed policy in fact here. You stated that you won't allow non-conforming land use such as cottages. Yet you allow something such as the exploitation of minerals and logging.

I attended one of the public meetings, and this was what riled up a bunch of the residents there. It came out in another public meeting, how does a cabin in a reserve area conflict—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, if I may interrupt the member, at this point in time there are no mining and logging in Killarney Park. He may be referring to the reserve area.

Mr. Germa: This is what we are talking about. You will not allow non-conforming campground use in the buffer zone, but you are allowing timbering and mining in that particular area in the buffer zone. This is what the point is. Let me read this other statement from another individual who made a submission. "How does a cabin in a reserve area conflict with your concept of primitive, when logging exploitation doesn't, when mining exploitation doesn't, when artificial dams don't, such as Johnnie Lake, and when man-made portages don't?"

The non-conforming land use, as far as cabins are concerned, will not be tolerated,

and yet in the buffer zone it is pretty well as I am talking about. I'm also concerned about the park proper. You are going to allow logging to take place in an area where you won't allow a person to have a cabin. What is really stirring the pot down there is that it seems to be one law for one group of citizens and another law for another group.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would just like to explain to the hon. member that we have not formally defined our boundaries for the primitive park at Killarney, nor have we defined the reserve areas, the buffer zones. We are studying a number of proposals and we are searching for a number of alternatives. We have not at this point in time defined finite boundaries either for the park itself or for the buffer zone. I will ask Mr. Keenan just to comment further on the remarks that you made.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the buffer zone, there were certain prior commitments with respect to logging in that area, that it was proposed to carry forward to the extent of the removal of certain merchantable timber. There has also been concern about the possibility of minerals in that area. Also, as you know, Mr. Germa, there were many concerns expressed by the cottagers in that area concerning the proposal that they might be excluded from the area. This latter point is one that has been receiving a good deal of our attention in this review of the whole Killarney process. I don't feel that there is an inconsistency there, because there are no moves under way at the present time to remove the cottagers from that buffer area.

Mr. Germa: You have not acquired any cottage sites in the buffer area, is that what you are saying?

Mr. T. E. Lee (Director, Park Planning Branch): Under the NGVRR plan, the proposal—and this was a very long-range proposal—was eventually to remove the patented lands from the area. Under that programme if there was something that does come up for sale for which a reasonable price can be obtained, it is purchased. I believe that we may have purchased two parcels of land in the buffer area over the last couple of years, in what would amount to the buffer area.

Mr. Keenan: These would be the north side, as opposed to the east side of the park, in the Johnnie-Carlyle area?

Mr. Lee: No, those would be on the east side, Mr. Keenan.

Mr. Germa: Another one of the submissions which I placed a lot of credibility in was that to bring the buffer zone to its proposed boundary would preclude them from ever getting a road from Killarney village to Whitefish Falls. How much consideration has your ministry given to this proposition?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think this is something that we have looked at very carefully. We are in discussions with Transportation and Communications because it would be a major link. The costs, as they related to the benefits, just don't balance out. It may be some considerable time before there is a major highway construction in that particular area because of the terrain and the cost of construction. I think one has to accept that reality. It's there.

Mr. Germa: I recognize it's rough terrain. I know the area personally but I should point out to you that the secondary school kids are now being transported to Sudbury, 70 miles away. There's a cost benefit that has to be taken into consideration there when kids have to spend an hour and a half, or two hours, on the bus twice a day to get to a secondary school.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We're fully aware of that and we're exploring every possibility with the Minister of Transportation and Communications, but I have to be fair with you in saying that the cost benefits, at this point in time, are just not balancing out.

Mr. Germa: Are you assuring us that if Transportation and Communications decides to go ahead through that particular route, regardless of discounting the cost— How would that fit in with your present plans and programmes?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. I'll ask Mr. Keenan to respond on that particular point. He's been having some very technical discussions with Transportation and Communications on it.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Chairman, as Mr. Germa points out, certainly, on the part of the people in Killarney village, there has been a concern about that road. Essentially, from the standpoint of the primitive park, our position would be that we would certainly prefer not to see that road there. On the other hand, subsequent to the public discussions of the options that were put forward, we have considered the position that, at such time in the future as its feasibility may be determined as being on the positive side, we would be quite prepared to re-

examine the issue at that time. But it is not feasible now. In accordance with the information that we have, it is not on any construction plans within the foreseeable future of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it's fair to say, Mr. Chairman, that if Transportation and Communications did decide, in their wisdom, to construct that road then we would not stand in their way because of our primitive park. We made that very clear.

Mr. Germa: That will be a relief to a lot of people there. Could I ask about land within the park proper, leases which are presently there? Have all these leases now expired? Are there any buildings left within the central core of the wilderness area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Keenan.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Germa, there are two things involved here. First of all there were a number of land-use permits concerning hunt camps and such like and they've been terminated. In addition, there are a number of cottages on Three Narrows Lake which are not on leases but which are on patented land. We have instituted a process of acquisition here as we can acquire them.

Mr. Germa: You are expropriating those three then, is that what you're saying?

Mr. Keenan: No, we are not expropriating them.

An hon. member: You're selling them.

Mr. Keenan: We are acquiring them through negotiation.

Mr. Germa: When can we expect a definitive decision from the ministry on these boundaries?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am informed by the staff that it will be some time yet before we have that particular point finalized.

Mr. Germa: Is the park presently operating as a wilderness area? I mean, were there canoeists going in there last summer?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, yes.

Mr. Germa: How many would have gone into the park last summer?

Mr. Keenan: I'm afraid I don't have a number on that. Mr. Lee may be able to give an estimate on that.

Mr. Lee: I think I can give some clarification. The interior of the park has never

operated quite the same as the interior of Algonquin or Quetico, as far as fees that have been applied. Therefore, we have no accurate record of the actual number—a record of the actual number of interior canoeists. In fact, the people who camp at George Lake, which would be car campers, both use the car campground and the interior.

As part of the programme this year, we are going to get an actual count on the numbers. But as of this particular time it is only based on our estimate of use. It would have to be just a broad guess based upon the use of portages and the use of campsites on certain lakes as we observe them, plus the use that the car campers make of the interior by the one/or two-hour trip up into Killarney and OSA Lake, and so on.

Mr. Germa: Is it not your intention to phase out George Lake?

Mr. Lee: The proposal developed in the options was—perhaps the word “phase out” has been a big problem there. The proposal put forward was to develop the George Lake area, which has a very small development site, for interior access and for quite a major interpretive and educational centre, and to utilize other campground opportunities in the Killarney vicinity to provide for the car campers. Basically, this provides us with the means of accommodating more people than we can presently.

Essentially, what we have now is a campground. What the proposal called for in the plan was the development of additional camping facilities and the use of the development of additional educational and access facilities through the use of the existing campgrounds.

So overall, there would be more facilities than there are now. But there are adjustments needed in order to accommodate both uses. It is very much like the French Lake situation at Atikokan, which Mr. Stokes would recall.

Mr. Stokes: Just in addition to that, because of the sterile condition of a lot of the lakes, attributed by most people to the fallout of SO_2 and runoff from snow, now that they have got the high stack at Sudbury, is the ministry—this is policy, I suppose—is the ministry considering asking Inco to make restitution and to somehow assist in the cost of rehabilitating those lakes by restocking?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm certainly not aware of that.

Mr. Stokes: There was quite a detailed study on the sterile condition of many of the lakes in Killarney and on the periphery. It was pretty conclusive that it was as a result of the fallout and the runoff over a number of years. But now that Inco has sort of dispersed the fallout over a much wider area, the people in North Bay are concerned about it and Parry Sound is maybe concerned about it. How are you going to attempt to rehabilitate the lakes in Killarney? And why isn't it legitimate that you should be asking Inco to help pay for it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that the Ministry of the Environment, in concert with our ministry, is conducting such studies in the Sudbury area. I had the honour of being in that particular city with the Minister of the Environment (Mr. W. Newman), together with the member for Sudbury East. I believe he was with us when we saw the start of the rehabilitation of certain lakes in the Sudbury area, with the application of tons of lime to raise the chemicals—

An hon. member: The pH—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —the pH of a lake itself in the hope that this would inject new life into the lake and they would be able to transplant fish into the lake and they would respond.

I was particularly interested to listen to the experts say that some lakes are sterile, but an adjacent lake could be active with life and contain a quantity of fish. They are studying reasons for this particular phenomenon. These studies are ongoing. We are co-operating with the Ministry of the Environment.

Hopefully, from these tests and surveys—I might say these are very ambitious programmes and experiments—we will get additional information that will provide us with the answer as to how to inject into the lakes in Killarney Park quantities of fish that will be maintained over a long period of time. I don't know if you have been to Killarney Lake, but one thing that impressed me and, of course, impresses any photographer who goes into that particular area, is the colour of the water. One has to fly over there and compare the colour of that particular area's water basins with other areas of northern Ontario. It's a sight to behold. If anyone in this room has not been there I would encourage them to go and see that because it is something that's really unique to northern Ontario.

Mr. Stokes: We are not all as mobile as you are.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Maybe I will take you with me some time if you are interested.

Mr. Germa: Could I ask what restrictions are presently in effect in this designated wilderness area? I think you have stopped sugarbushing and snowmobiling, is that not correct?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Keenan will answer that one.

Mr. Keenan: The land-use permit has been withdrawn for hunting. I am not certain whether or not this applies to the sugarbush operations, or the status of snowmobiles.

Mr. Lee: The one sugarbush operation in there was dependent upon finding an alternative site. I believe that that was done, but in that particular case, I don't know. We can get you that information. Snowmobiling was permitted in the park last year and it is anticipated that until the total Killarney policy is settled, that will remain as part of it.

Mr. Germa: You have cancelled trapper licences in there, I understand?

Mr. Lee: Again, I can't give an up-to-date report on that but the trapper adjustments were initiated approximately three to four years ago. What stage they are at, I am not too sure. I think we would like to provide a report on that.

Mr. Chairman: Before I call on Mr. Newman, I would just like to welcome Mr. Grossman—

Mr. Maeck: Speech.

Mr. Chairman: —the Provincial Secretary for Resources Management. Now, Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): We welcome Mr. Grossman to the committee, Mr. Chairman. We are awfully pleased to see him here and we expect some substantial input from him.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Knowing of Mr. Grossman's interest in resources development, I want to add my welcome.

Mr. Root: I would like to suggest that they establish a smokehouse to smoke bacon and hams at Upper Canada Village. I think Mr. Grossman would sponsor that.

Hon. A. Grossman (Provincial Secretary for Resources Development): A lot of fellows went to hell with a joke on their lips.

Mr. Ferrier: I thought you were talking about establishing one out here in the committee room.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: You are out of order, Mr. Ferrier.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just thought I would tell the member for Thunder Bay that I got a big reception up there today. I got off the plane at 10 o'clock to the worst snowstorm they have had in years. With the snow right at Armstrong, we couldn't make it.

Mr. Ferrier: Even the Lord makes it rough on the Tories up there.

Mr. Stokes: I am sorry to hear that, because if you were on your way into Armstrong, you would have got the most welcoming and the warmest reception you would have had in years if you had had something relevant to say to them, because they are anxiously waiting to hear from you.

Hon. Mr. Grossman: I am afraid it wasn't a warm welcome in Thunder Bay. It was very cold.

Mr. B. Newman: At least we gave the minister a warm welcome when he came to Toronto.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the minister concerning the staging and development of Peach Island in the Detroit River. How much in the way of funds is being allocated for the development for the coming year?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, there are no funds in this particular vote for the development of Peach Island. We are doing further studies and work within our own ministry.

Mr. Haggerty: You have said that for four years now.

Mr. Chairman: Does this item—

Mr. B. Newman: No, I have a few questions to ask. Mr. Chairman. It is kind of funny—

Mr. Haggerty: Have they got a master plan for this?

Mr. B. Newman: —back in 1965—I should say previous to 1965—when I could parade the various Ministers of Lands and Forests—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You haven't taken me there. That may be your downfall.

Mr. B. Newman: —they said under no circumstances would they buy Peach Island; it was too small; it was in the middle of the river; it was in international waters and so forth. Every alibi you could think of was given. When we got close to the 1971 election, you found that the island was purchased. Mind you, I think you did the right thing in buying the island but you probably paid too much money for it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Are you suggesting we do things politically?

Mr. B. Newman: I think the island was assessed for only \$10,000 at one time when Sandwich East owned the island but that's beside the point. As a result of the purchase of the island, the ministry went through quite a detailed study of the island, in case you haven't seen it, Mr. Minister. It's a very nice master plan for the island.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are reviewing that study further within the ministry, those were my comments.

Mr. B. Newman: You got all of the community nicely warmed up as to what you were going to do to the island.

Mr. Stokes: There will be an announcement in 1975.

Mr. B. Newman: It will be before 1975.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Is there an insinuation here that we do things politically? Shame.

Mr. B. Newman: The staging of it meant you led the public and the community to believe that you really meant to follow through with your plans for the island. It is kind of strange that now we find you have no funds allocated to proceed with the master plan. All we can conclude is that you were playing the game to the hilt as far as the community was concerned and I don't think you are being fair with the community in doing that.

I think you should have carried on with some type of development other than SWEEP on the island. Even that is better than not doing anything but I think you should have carried out what you had originally planned, maybe on a reduced scale. When I saw stage 1 I knew at the time you

wouldn't do it because it was a little to grandiose. Stage 1 was to provide island services, transportation facilities from the mainland to the island, ferry docking, parking. You have done absolutely nothing on this, nothing at all. I think you are probably a little ashamed of the action your ministry has taken—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I am not ashamed at all.

Mr. B. Newman: —as far as the island is concerned. You are not considering leasing it back to Manny Harris, are you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, we are certainly not. We have maintained the island, as the member has correctly pointed out, with SWEEP. Following the completion of the master plan, I can assure you we are proceeding with the design work for architecture, and landscape architecture will be initiated this year. We are starting—

Mr. B. Newman: What do you mean by designing certain things? It's the first item you mentioned.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This is work for architecture and landscaping.

Mr. B. Newman: What do you mean by that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask the director to elaborate further on details.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Chairman, the master-plan document establishes a policy for the park. In other words, it speaks to the question of what kind of park should it be; what kind of development should it contain; what kind of uses can the area sustain and which are appropriate both to the carrying capacity of the area and the needs of the people who are going to use the island. That is one important step in the planning process during which there is public involvement, as there was in the case of Windsor.

The second planning phase or planning step, if you will, is the detailed planning; actually to design the kind of buildings that are going to be established, to design, specifically in terms of surveys of the area, detailed studies of the area, what kinds of facilities are going to be constructed and where they are going to be constructed in a detailed sense, to the extent of the preparation of engineering drawings, landscaping specifications and all of the detailed specifications that are required for the construction of any park.

Mr. B. Newman: I hope you are aware of all of the planning that has gone into this, with diagrams, sketches and everything of this sort, and the most elaborate presentation that the ministry made in the council chambers to both the city council and the various members from the Essex county area who were interested in seeing this at the time. It wasn't this minister, it was his predecessor. We just wonder really how sincere you are in following through with the original plans that you had for the area.

Are you sincere, or is this just another sham, something that you are presenting to pacify a community for a period of time and then maybe at some distant date in the far future you will resurrect this once again and then toy with it, then neglect it, and then go back to it?

Mr. Stokes: They are resurveying the survey.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, we are sincere. I think it is fair to say that we show our sincerity with the purchase of that 100-acre island. It is very close to the city of Windsor. It is obvious that certain priorities have to be established with other demands throughout the province. And certainly as funds become available, now that we have the master planning and we have initiated these architectural and landscape plans, and they are on their way now, we will be moving in that direction. But there is no doubt that this has to be developed. It is an acquisition that the province has made and we intend to go on with it.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, I don't believe you. No, I don't, because I've heard this story so often from the ministry when it comes to the Essex county area. It is hard to believe what you say, because we haven't found that your actions bespeak what you say.

In the first instance, the ministry said that under no circumstances would they purchase the island, and then all of a sudden it was purchased. This was kind of strange. Now you say that you are going to go through certain engineering stages, or certain planning stages. Have you considered the establishment of an advisory committee from the local area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: At this point in time, certainly, we will consider that. But I would point out to you that the change of policy and thrust within the ministry in the last few years has changed to a more urban type of development for our provincial park system.

Peach Island falls into that category. We have now developed the Bronte Creek Park and, in Mr. Haggerty's riding, the Short Hills Provincial Park, which is an urban-type park.

Mr. Haggerty: It's just a small park.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have embarked on the Komoka Park, outside the confines of the city of London, and Peach Island falls into that category. So there is a change of policy. When you say that we weren't going to purchase it a few years ago and all of a sudden we changed our minds, I have to say to you there was a change of policy thrust and an interest in developing urban-type parks. This is the direction in which we are going.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, just your words "change of policy" disturb me, because today you say you are going to do this and next year it will be a change of policy again. So you will hesitate to proceed on the original master plan, or it will be so drastically changed that you may do nothing whatsoever. In the first place, remember, you have an island, it is offshore, and regardless of what you may do on the island, unless you have some means of getting over to the island, there is nothing going to happen on the island, other than that it may be used by those who have their own mode of crossing the island by means of some type of boat.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Crossing the water.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, it's across the water. I doubt you're going to be interested in the near future in developing a causeway approach to the island itself.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, you know, to say that our policies are cast in marble is certainly not correct. Because there are changing needs of the people across the Province of Ontario. We change our policies accordingly, to meet those changing needs, and I think our thrust towards more urban parks is a recognition of those changing needs.

Mr. B. Newman: What, purchase of the island?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, that was a change.

Mr. B. Newman: But 1971 had nothing to do with it, you were telling me.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I wasn't around at that particular time, but I suspect that the change of policy at that time was for more urban parks and this was the reason. Maybe Mr.

Keenan has some more comments he'd like to expand further.

Mr. Stokes: You're not going to get him to contradict himself.

Mr. B. Newman: I'm not trying to get him to contradict himself at all. All I'm interested in, really, Mr. Minister, is some action on the island. Even if it is something beyond a SWEEP programme, to show your good intent. When you do nothing, then it doesn't indicate to the community that you're sincere in what you say. And, Mr. Minister, I think that you're an honourable man, but the man who may follow you may completely forget about any planning that you may have done and your intent as far as Peach Island is concerned.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I hope I'm still around to develop Peach Island.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, you will be for a year, I would think.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I expect to be around longer than that. If I'm not around, I'm sure this government will be.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, we hope that you are around on the face of God's earth, Mr. Minister, but we'll stop there. I wanted to ask how much money you are allocating for this year. Nothing whatsoever?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have no funds for development of Peach Island, per se.

Mr. B. Newman: How much in funds are you allotting?

Mr. Keenan: Sorry, Mr. Newman, I don't have a specific figure. It's contained within a fairly large programme of detailed site planning by our site planning unit. But certainly there is work to go forward this year, and I can assure you that the detailed architecture and site design is a highly precise science.

You did make reference to the sketches in the master plan. Quite appropriately, these are suggestions in terms of architectural style that, in fact, draw upon the architectural style of the buildings that are already on the site. But these require translation into detailed construction drawings, which, either for purposes of our own construction or for tendering out the job, are adequate for that purpose. So there is a good deal of detailed planning with this park, as with any park, between the master planning and the beginning of development.

Mr. B. Newman: You know, I accept what you say, Mr. Keenan, but the fact that you don't have funds allocated for this specific park indicates to me that you really have no plans to do anything with the park. Not any type of development, not even any of the planning that you say. Otherwise you would, when you drew up your budget, have come along and allocated to Peach Island X amount of dollars.

Mr. Keenan: Well, Mr. Newman, within our own detailed divisional budget break-out there would be an estimate of the money to be spent on Peach Island this year. But, as with the detailed planning that we are doing in a large number of areas, these expenditures don't show in details on the estimates.

Mr. B. Newman: All right. Then you do have somewhere in your records the amount of money that you intend to spend on the Peach Island deal?

Mr. Keenan: Perhaps Mr. Lee, the director of planning, who is in charge of this particular segment of the operation, could respond.

Mr. Lee: There are two aspects of detailed design. The first one is architecture. The work that has been initiated on that included first of all, a search for the building and architectural plans of the original buildings, which we managed to turn up. We found the architect who designed them and we were able to work from them in designing them our own way as part buildings. The original design was for saloons and concession facilities and so on.

Within this staff that is assigned to the project—well, not assigned to this project, we have an architect and an architectural technician working on five architectural projects in the province, and Peach Island is one of them. As a matter of fact, a review of the draft material is due by the end of this month.

The second aspect of detail design is in landscape architecture and there are two requirements for this. The first is our engineering surveys with grade levels that will be done on the island or the exact locations on development. This would require an engineering survey crew to go out and take actual detailed 1 ft contours, and that is scheduled for this summer. Then there would be a landscape architect, or landscape technologist, who would work in conjunction with the survey crew in doing detailed grading and landscaping plans.

I think what I've indicated is perhaps not the amount of money but the type of staff that is working on the project. I am not in a position to give a precise breakdown on the amount of time that any one of those people would spend on this particular project, but on the basis of the work schedules that have been established, we would anticipate that the detailed drawings for the buildings could be completed by approximately December of this year and that along with them the landscape design could be done. We would be prepared to go ahead then as soon as funds became available for actual capital construction. In other words, the plans would be ready to be developed.

Mr. B. Newman: All of the work that has been mentioned apparently has already been taken care of in the master plan. Anyway I assume it has. So I can see nothing other required by the department other than the influx of some funds, because the master plan certainly covers everything—anyway in my estimation—everything that you could possibly think of. The diagrams and charts that were shown when the presentation was made in the council chambers back in the city of Windsor would have covered the complete wall in this room, it was so elaborate. So I don't see where you need much more planning, Mr. Minister. Maybe there is more planning needed, but to me it looks as if there is enough now and it is just a matter of financial input.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would like Tom just to elaborate further on your comments in regards to those master plans. What's in there is in broad detail.

Mr. Lee: Maybe the easiest way to illustrate it is through the architecture. There are architectural sketches in the plan you have which I believe you would realize you couldn't take to a construction firm or a contractor or maybe even a carpenter and ask him to build anything from them. At this stage they are just sketches and they kind of indicate a building of such-and-such a size and such-and-such a shape. So the process from there that is really required is to do the detailed design work, which is architectural drawings.

The landscape architecture perhaps is not quite so easy to explain, but basically it includes the grading and the planting plans for the park which are not included in the document you have. The document you have indicates the location of facilities, the circulation systems, the type of facility, and the type of activity areas. It does not include the

detailed plan for the width of paths or the planting of a picnic area and so on, and that is the type of work that I was referring to.

Mr. B. Newman: In the presentation made in city council I think everything you mentioned was included in those plans. Maybe I didn't interpret the meaning correctly, but I don't intend to pursue this any further, Mr. Minister.

What are the plans of the ministry for the buildings that are now on the island? Manny Harris in his development of the island as a luxury park for the Americans—and he was going to connect that island right across to the Detroit mainland to bring in visitors by means of a cable car—had a real exotic plan, a most unusual type of plan. It was after his plan sort of fell by the wayside that the ministry walked in and took over.

Now Manny Harris did have certain types of buildings constructed on the island. If nothing is done to maintain those buildings it isn't too long before they will deteriorate completely. When I see them from the Windsor side of the island it disturbs me that they may completely fall apart if some type of work isn't done to preserve what is there, if it is worth preserving.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think what Mr. Lee was trying to say, and I think said very clearly, was that while there were broad, general plans, the details have to be worked out for those particular points that you raised. Certainly we will maintain those buildings and make sure they are preserved so they will be of use to us as we develop the park in the future.

Mr. B. Newman: Under whose responsibility is that going to lie? Under the superintendent at Holiday Beach, or will this come under the Chatham office?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He is looking after it now. Mr. Keenan points out that ultimately Peach Island will have its own park superintendent.

Mr. B. Newman: I understand that. But at present the superintendent of Holiday Beach has the responsibility of taking care of any work that is undertaken on Peach Island.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. B. Newman: So you or your ministry will look into the preservation of any of the buildings on the island?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we will maintain them.

Mr. B. Newman: The island is used quite extensively by boaters, the water being shallow, especially on the American side. These are almost international waters, just on the borderline. Does the ministry contemplate anything to facilitate the use of the island by boaters? They simply park their boats 50 or 100 ft offshore and swim on the American side. On the Canadian side of the island they don't do that because the water is a little too deep.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Keenan would have some comment on that.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Chairman, we certainly would want to accommodate boaters in the design of a park. We also would be concerned about the fact of boats landing anywhere. In the development we would want to channel the entry point for boats so that they aren't, landing at all locations around the island. I would anticipate that a fee would be charged for the use of the island which would require boats to go through some central point to obtain the necessary permits for park use.

Mr. B. Newman: Do you contemplate charging a fee for those who do park their boats and then use the island now?

Mr. Keenan: There will be no fee charged until the park is developed.

Mr. B. Newman: For the present those who park their boats would under no circumstances be required to pay any type of charge or fees for the use of the island—because they do stop and get out of their boats and make use of the island.

Mr. Keenan: That is correct, sir. This is a policy that applies in many areas. Until we have a development and the appropriate park management is in place we really haven't got a product to sell, in terms of charging fees. Our primary concern at this stage is maintaining the island in a reasonably clean and satisfactory manner.

Mr. Haggerty: I imagine if people are using it as a park now there must be some trash lying around.

Mr. Keenan: This is one of the things that the crews we have there in the summer are doing, cleaning up and maintaining garbage pickup.

Mr. Haggerty: Why wouldn't there be a charge for it now?

Mr. Keenan: We really don't have the services. We don't have the staff on hand,

with the present absence of development of other than temporary facilities. It would probably cost much more to collect the fees than the revenue we would get from them.

Mr. B. Newman: I think you are right. I wanted to ask the minister, in the development of a project such as Old Fort William, what criteria are used for the original intent of developing an area. Is it an historical background you are interested in? Is it antiquity, early history, or what?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, each area has its own significance. It stands on its own merit. Some are developed for historical purposes, others are developed for the needs of a specific area with regard, as I said earlier to the development of an urban type of recreational area, while others are developed as the member for Sudbury mentioned, for a primitive type of experience.

Mr. B. Newman: I bring this up, Mr. Minister, to make you aware that, to the best of my knowledge, the first French settlement in what is the Province of Ontario was in Essex county back in 1701, I believe. Why hasn't the province considered that as one of the reasons for the development of a major tourist attraction?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think I can say to you, as I said earlier in these discussions, we are conducting an overall review of the historical point in the Province of Ontario, and that is one of the aspects we are seriously considering. I think I pointed out that, we are looking at a number of areas that we should be developing next for their historical significance, and that is one of the areas we are looking at.

Mr. B. Newman: That's true, but you are not necessarily going into the development of areas from the early historical point of view. There is no other place in the Province of Ontario that had a permanent settlement as early as the Essex county area. As I said earlier, I believe it was the first settlement and, if I am not mistaken, it was settled by the Jesuits back in 1701. I think that in itself should merit a little more consideration when it comes to the development of a historical project. Coming from "the garden gateway to Canada", I think the development of a substantial project in the Essex county area, similar to the St. Lawrence parks and the St. Clair Parkway, merits serious consideration by the ministry.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Keenan will have some comments on that, I am sure.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to comment by saying that in our historical systems planning, we are basically attempting to look at the entire sweep of human history in Ontario, going back well beyond the first French settlement; in fact, going back to the palæo-Indians in Ontario, which is approximately 10,000 years ago.

We are attempting to identify the main themes, if you will, of Ontario history. There are a number of themes within the period: the Indian settlement; the agricultural settlement, such as in the little clay belt; some of the settlement in southwestern Ontario that you speak of; the mining development; and the Ottawa Valley logging.

We are attempting to place all of this in what we call a historical systems planning perspective, if you'll excuse the jargon, in which we can hopefully locate our future developments in places that will provide the opportunity to represent Ontario's history in a very systematic way, so that we get representation covering all of the important stories; and by important I mean things that would be important on the provincial scale, as distinct, for instance, from the work of local conservation authorities or local historical societies.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, when I look at some of the developments that you have already undertaken, I don't think they have the antiquity of the Essex county area, and I just wonder how you set priorities.

Mr. Keenan: Mr. Newman, we have been developing this systems plan over the last two years in order that we can fit all of these into a priority system for development. Certainly we are concerned with the whole scope of history. Mr. Bowes has indicated that in terms of early French settlements, Ste-Marie-among-the-Hurons, which was the first white settlement in Ontario, dating back to 1649, is one of the areas now represented in the historical parks.

Mr. B. Newman: I mentioned the first French settlement in Ontario. Was this one French also?

Mr. Keenan: Ste Marie-among-the-Hurons, in fact, was the first French settlement in Ontario.

Mr. B. Newman: I stand corrected. I had always understood that the Essex county area was the first part of Ontario to be settled by the French.

Mr. Keenan: No.

Mr. B. Newman: I accept that. I think the man is far more learned in the field of history than I am. I am pleased there are such employees in the ministry who can ferret out all of this, because it certainly is worthwhile. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I have nothing more to raise under this item.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Stokes.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, I want to get a commitment from the minister that his ministry has absorbed the recommendations made by the select committee on snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles for the provision of trails. One of the things that came through loud and clear to us was that if they were going to continue to pay the \$10 registration fee we recommended that it be reduced to \$8. But even then, people in most parts of the province felt they should get something in return for it, particularly since we did make a recommendation that they be removed from highways, certainly from major highways in the Province of Ontario. They felt if they were going to be denied the right to use highways or shoulders of roads we had a responsibility to provide an alternative to them.

We did recommend specifically that the Ontario government provide leadership in the establishment and maintenance of trails on Crown lands in co-operation with both municipal authorities and private persons on a lease basis; that the Ministry of Natural Resources be empowered to acquire easements or other limited interest in land for the purpose of establishing and maintaining motorized snow vehicle trails; and that the Ministry of Natural Resources be directed to acquire, where appropriate, abandoned railway and utility lines and abandoned mining and logging roads for the purpose of establishing and maintaining recreational trails.

I hope you will take that recommendation seriously, because if our recommendation to ban them off most highways is accepted by the provincial government, there is going to be an awful hue and cry if you don't provide an alternative for the some 350,000 snowmobiles in the province, and the number is increasing each year.

One final thing: In our final report, which is just out, we were more concerned about all-terrain vehicles. We realize there are a good many conflicts between those who go out into the bush with dune buggies, trail bikes, and amphibious craft, and particularly the hovercraft; and we thought they posed a real threat to the environment and were the major conflict.

I hope the minister will take it seriously, because I just want to refer you to claims made by a hovercraft manufacturer in Weston. He's got a real bomb here. It is really not a recreational vehicle; I think it's a missile. I'm not going to read the whole article, but here are some of the claims made by the inventor:

When you are flying one of these things it is like sitting in an armchair. Hovercraft: The Chinook, looks like a small speedboat, can travel across most types of terrain at varying speeds. Across ice the Chinook has been clocked at 55 miles per hour, although speeds over water are lower as friction is greater. It scoots up inclines of 20 degrees; and tests at 45 degrees have been proved successful, although tackling inclines at this grade is not recommended for the inexperienced hovercrafter.

Now he goes on to say:

Mastering the Chinook is tricky. The first problem is getting the craft to travel in the direction you want it to go.

Can you imagine it on a beach with picnickers and sun-bathers?

Mr. B. Newman: They go fast, though.

Mr. Stokes: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We certainly don't want them in our parks, I can tell you that.

Mr. Stokes: To continue:

Winds and pitches in terrain, however slight, affect direction considerably. Controlled by an ostensibly simple joy stick, the Chinook takes 10 hours of practice before the hovercrafter becomes proficient.

And this is by the inventor. I'm not going to elaborate, but you can see the problems that your ministry is going to be involved in if you don't get in on the ground floor.

Heaven knows a lot of these innovations in recreational vehicles were on us before we realized it. I think that we can benefit from the kind of research we did on this committee so that we can anticipate what is going to happen and what the conflicts are going to be if you don't take some positive action to say they are banned right across the province, except where your ministry, in conjunction with the Ministry of the Environment and whatever other agencies might be involved, say yes, you can go here.

It's a question of getting in before the act so we don't let all of these things out

of the barn before we're prepared for them. I can tell you, all hell is going to break loose if you just turn your back and let these hovercraft go scooting across these quiet, placid little lakes. You've got them running up on shore, scattering sand and dust in the eyes of picnickers and swimmers and, boy, you'll have no end of problems.

I just hope you'll take a real good look at both of those reports, the interim report dealing specifically with snowmobiling and the final report dealing almost exclusively with all-terrain vehicles. I think we've covered most of the problems you'll be confronted with in the short run, and hopefully you'll be able to do something about it to control them and keep the conflicts to a minimum.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I can assure you we will be studying your recommendation very carefully. It is fair to say that we have only received a final report within the last week. We will be looking at it with a great deal of interest because we do have the responsibility of controlling those vehicles on Crown lands. I might say to the member that while we have jurisdiction, particularly within the provincial parks, we do allow certain things to go on, such as nudist colonies, but we will not allow hovercraft in our provincial parks as of this day.

Mr. Foulds: Especially in those with the nudist colonies.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Especially where there are nudist colonies, right. Certainly this is one thing we will be working on.

In fact our staff will be engaged in developing certain policies in the next few weeks which we can bring forward to the government, because we want to be involved. We are very much aware of the danger they impose.

Mr. Stokes: This is one of the few instances, I think, where we are sort of ahead of the thing.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Stokes: We're not reacting.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right, we're ahead of it.

Mr. Stokes: We're going to act, rather than react, now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: From what I can gather from your report, it's an excellent report. You made some good recommendations and we'll be following up very closely on them.

Mr. Haggerty: Might I make a suggestion that you have streakers in your parks?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I can assure you we are very broadminded.

Mr. Germa: Mr. Chairman, just before we close off, I wonder if we can just balance the record a bit by rebutting a request made by Mr. Wiseman earlier that you increase the park fees to eliminate the competition from private parks.

I think it is the responsibility of this ministry to supply recreation facilities to the greatest number of people, even those who cannot afford to pay the commercial rates. I don't think that the viable rates necessary for a private park to operate should necessarily apply to a provincial park, because when you raised the fees the last time you did price a lot of people in the lower income brackets out of the parks. I don't want the record to show that the committee was unanimous in accepting the recommendation of Mr. Wiseman or that his request should go unchal-

lenged. I would object strenuously if the minister is thinking of raising park fees.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it's fair to say, Mr. Chairman, that maybe the member was not here when we discussed that point in some detail. We have an efficiency and cost benefits study going on within the ministry, with the help of the Ministry of Government Services, and the study of the fees in relation to the need will be carefully examined.

Mr. Germa: I think even if the park system is showing a deficit it is money well spent. I think we don't necessarily have to have a balanced book as far as our recreational facilities are concerned.

Mr. Wiseman: I don't think we will ever balance the books on the parks programme.

Mr. Chairman: Can this vote be carried?

Mr. Reid: No, it can't, Mr. Chairman.

The committee adjourned at 10:30 o'clock, p.m.

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Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

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OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Thursday, May 16, 1974

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

**THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1974

The committee met at 3:25 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

(continued)

On vote 2203:

Mr. Chairman: Order. Mr. Good.

Mr. E. R. Good (Waterloo North): Yes, one additional item, Mr. Minister, that I forgot to mention the other day has been brought to my attention again.

In Fathom Five Park in the Bruce Peninsula at Tobermory, your purpose there of course is to accommodate the skindivers who come into the area and also to attract more people into the area to use Fathom Five Park. Where you have a high concentration of skindivers there are invariably going to be accidents relating to people getting into difficulty with their scuba equipment—regulators go bad, they lose their mouthpiece in water, they get down in cold water—these things happen. Having sons who are skindivers I know a little bit about it; not a great deal.

Now I understand the only decompression chamber in Ontario is here in Toronto, or at least the closest one to Tobermory is here in Toronto. Dr. Leeson in a statement in the paper just yesterday I believe it was, or the day before, said that in the accident that happened there just a few days ago, had there been a decompression chamber closer to the Tobermory area than Toronto, this particular diver's life could have been saved.

I believe there have been about six deaths among divers there in the last few years. I'm not saying all of them could have been saved by having a decompression chamber closer, but undoubtedly there are those instances where it is necessary to bring the diver to the surface more quickly than he should be brought up to counteract the difference in weight of water and the compression of air in his lungs which takes place down at the depths.

This particular diver I believe was 100 ft down and was brought up very quickly. Had

he not been, he probably would have drowned anyway because they think that his regulator froze up at that tremendous depth in very cold water. As you all know the water in northern Georgian Bay, in Colpoys Bay, in all that area, is very cold, is very clear and is ideally suited to skindiving because of the clarity.

While you are providing all the other facilities, you are expecting the private sector to supply air to fill air tanks, repairs to regulators, there are good skindiving shops in Tobermory and through that area as well as in Owen Sound. I'm wondering if your ministry, because of the development of this park, has given any serious consideration to trying to get a decompression chamber in that part of the province that could serve the Georgian Bay area, maybe in conjunction with the hospital at Owen Sound, or maybe in conjunction with the hospital at Wiarton. It would have to be in conjunction with some medical clinic or hospital so that there would be someone around who would know how to use it.

If this has been discussed I would like to know what your feelings are on it or would you look into it a little further?

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of National Resources): No, it has not been discussed, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased that the member did return to this particular matter. We did discuss Fathom Five Park very briefly.

I would point out to you that we are concerned with the number of accidents that have occurred there. In fact the very untimely death which took place just a few days ago is something on which I'm looking forward to a full report to see if there is something that could have been done.

I would say to you that we have been, and we are, actively pursuing with the Ministry of Health the establishment of a decompression chamber at Tobermory. This would be in conjunction with a new clinic that is proposed for that particular area. The facilities would be operated by the local medical personnel associated with the clinic. We hope to have this completed and in operation for the 1975 season.

So, we are very much aware and we are working full speed ahead because this type

of park is a unique type of park and certainly you have to have these protective facilities because of the nature of the recreation which is involved.

Mr. Good: This decision has been made—that there will be a decompression chamber available in northern Georgian Bay, near the park?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, the decision was made and we hope to have it in operation in 1975. Mr. Keenan might want to give the hon. member more technical details on it.

Mr. J. W. Keenan (Executive Director, Division of Parks): Mr. Chairman, I simply confirm what the minister has said. We have allocated funds in our budget this year to acquire a decompression chamber for Fathom Five Park.

As Mr. Bernier has said, this has been contingent upon an arrangement that was satisfactory to all concerned, and including the Ministry of Health and the local health officials. We have had discussions with medical specialists in this area and with divers, the Underwater Council of Ontario. Fortuitously, a doctor has recently been hired for Tobermory as part of the Ministry of Health programme; a clinic is going to be established according to the information we have. One of the major drawing points for the medical doctor was the fact that he is an enthusiastic scuba diver and is interested in undertaking research in this area of underwater medicine.

So, as I say, this is fortuitous circumstance that this doctor is interested. It is intended that the hyperbaric chamber will be part of the medical centre that's established at Tobermory.

Mr. Good: Just as a point of interest, is it a pretty expensive installation? Why is there only one in the province, do you know?

Mr. Keenan: Well, I think the expense is somewhere of the order of \$15,000 for the chamber itself; it depends. There are different sizes, of course. The other thing in that area is the professional capability to operate it properly.

Mr. Good: I presume the one here is used more for underground construction workers who are working in compressed air chambers than it is for divers. This is probably the only part of the province that has a great deal of underground construction in compressed air chambers—with subway construction and similar work.

I am glad to hear that, Mr. Minister, and thanks.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): There is one available in the United States Coast Guard in Buffalo.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Reid.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Mr. Chairman, I would like to preface my remarks with what might be a point of order. At the end of the sitting last Tuesday night you made some gratuitous comments about my attendance at this committee, and I am not sure whether they got into Hansard or not.

I would say two things. First of all, your comments were completely uncalled for; it is not part of your position as chairman to make remarks like that.

Second, in case they were in Hansard, I was in here from 8 until 9 p.m. and from 10 to 10:30 p.m. In between that, Mr. Chairman, you might be aware—although I doubt whether you are—that there is a committee of the whole House discussing the land speculation bill, as well as the Health Disciplines Act. I think that you should be aware that we all can't be in this committee all the time and that it has been common practice for members to come in when particular topics in which they have an interest are being raised.

Having said that, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask Mr. Bernier if his department also has responsibility for Fort Penetang and Ste Marie-among-the-Hurons. Does the gunboat "Nancy," that museum, come under your department also?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, it does, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Reid: Well, we'll take them in reverse order. I understand that the "Nancy" is a losing proposition. It is kind of an expensive proposition, is it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Maybe Mr. Keenan could give the hon. member the details.

Mr. Keenan: Yes, in terms of the revenue as opposed to the operating costs it does not show a profit.

Mr. Reid: What company did the construction of that, or the restructuring, or whatever one would call it in this circumstance?

Mr. Keenan: I can't answer that question, sir. This was one of the Huronia historical sites that was transferred to this ministry on April 1, 1972, from the old Department of

Tourism and Information, so I don't have information on that.

Mr. Reid: Perhaps you could inform me later, Mr. Keenan, if you would. In regard to Fort Penetang and Ste Marie-among-the-Hurons, I understand the same company did the work on both those projects. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It was the University of Western Ontario under the direction of Dr. Jury.

Mr. Reid: Yes. Now, in his statement on February 8, I believe, the minister, Mr. Auld, spoke peripherally of Mr. Jury and praised him for doing quite a good job on those projects. I understand that subsequently, and I'm not exactly sure of the date, Mr. Jury was relieved of his responsibilities or, to put it in the vernacular, fired. Is that correct?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He is retired from Western.

Mr. Reid: Well, was he fired from the project? I understand that he was relieved from the project, or that he was fired or asked to resign from the project.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, that is not correct, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Reid: That is not the case?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is not the case at all, no. Prof. Jury, I think you must realize, is in his 80s.

Mr. Reid: Yes, I realize he is an elderly gentleman, but I was informed—and my information may be incorrect—that he was relieved of his responsibilities.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, not to my knowledge.

Mr. Reid: That is not correct?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's not correct.

Mr. Reid: All right. In regard to Fort Penetang and Ste Marie-among-the-Hurons, I understand that one and the same company worked on both those projects—a company by the name of Smallwood, Webster, I believe. Is that correct, Mr. Keenan?

Mr. Keenan: I couldn't answer that for certain, Mr. Reid.

Mr. Reid: You are not really up on these kind of things, eh?

Mr. Keenan: Not on the construction aspect in terms of the contractors that were involved, no. But we could certainly get that information.

Mr. Reid: If you would, that will certainly cut my remarks short—for which I am sure we are all grateful.

I'll leave that, but I would appreciate if you would inform me about Smallwood, Webster, Mr. Keenan; and, at the same time, perhaps you could indicate who are the directors of that company.

If I may, Mr. Minister, I would like to raise something that is very parochial but, I think, of great interest to the province as a whole. It's something you and I have had conversations about and which I have been interested in for seven or eight years; and I have been through it with your predecessor, Mr. Brunelle: I speak of the Indian mounds at Fort Frances.

Some of you gentlemen will be aware that these mounds have been compared in historical importance to the pyramids in Egypt. Perhaps that comparison is a little far-fetched, but as regards the early history of our country, I think they are indeed important. They are some of the oldest burial mounds known in North America, and for that reason they are important.

As some of you are aware, there was an article in the National Geographic magazine in October or November of 1971, about the mound builders; and the site near Emo and Barwick, close to the Manitou Indian Reserve, was mentioned as a very important site.

I understand that the government has moved, tardily but finally, to purchase some 80 acres, I believe—maybe Mr. Lee or Mr. Keenan can help me with the exact figure in connection with these mounds.

I'd like to ask two questions about the outstanding acreage containing mounds, which is owned by a Mr. George Armstrong, with whom I am sure the minister is well acquainted. I understand that negotiations are going on for the purchase of that property and that one of the problems connected with the negotiation is the price Mr. Armstrong is asking, as well as the question as to what basis should he be paid for that property, whether it should be paid for at an acreage cost or to reflect the value of the property because of the gravel on it.

I would hope that matter could be resolved shortly, but what my concern is, Mr. Minister, is that Mr. Armstrong is a contractor—he makes cement among other things—is

there anything at this point in time to prevent him from going on to that property, which he owns and controls, and digging up or burying those Indian mounds that are now there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I might just point out to the members of the committee, we are very interested in the mounds in the Rainy River area to which the member refers. I was interested when my staff informed me that there is evidence of human occupation on those mounds that dates back about 8,000 years, so it is a matter of real provincial significance.

We have purchased a number of lots—lots 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36 and 37—and we have lots 31, 25 and 26 under negotiation. Lots 23 and 24 are the ones to which you refer, which are owned by the contractor at Fort Frances. I might say that there are some good reserves of gravel on these areas. There is some feeling within the ministry that we had to get a handle on the value of that aggregate in assessing the price that we should pay Mr. Armstrong.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Give them a trade. There is all kinds of gravel in the area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are looking at that, too. We have asked the Ministry of Transportation and Communications to assist in—

Mr. Reid: He already owns all the gravel.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —establishing the quantity and the quality of the gravel in the reserve area, and once we have done that, of course, we will make an offer to Mr. Armstrong. I might say that the route that we are going in will save us embarrassment later on once we get the figures nailed down.

Mr. Reid: My concern is, Mr. Minister, have you insisted one way or another that he not disturb those mounds? Because it's a possibility—I am not saying the man would do it—that he could go in there with a bulldozer and then say, "All right, there are no mounds left."

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are working very closely on this. In fact, there are funds in this vote for that particular acquisition. Once we have got the figure from Transportation and Communications we will approach Mr. Armstrong. If we can't reach an agreement, we will expropriate immediately.

Mr. Reid: But in the meantime there is really no way you can prevent him from destroying those mounds?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, outside of appealing to him as a good corporate citizen, which Mr. Armstrong is.

Mr. Reid: Have you informed him by way of letter that he would be—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: By way of letter, no. He has been contacted by the ministry and certain—

Mr. Stokes: Some hireling should go in.

Mr. Reid: That has happened, you see. Somebody went in and took a piece of one of the mounds.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Reid: And I would say, Mr. Minister, I would appreciate if you would regularize it by way of letter so that he's aware of the government's intention. I would just have one concluding remark, if I may. I would hope in all this that the Indians on the Manitou reserve, which is next door to these mounds, would be consulted in any plans that the ministry has in regard to developing and protecting them.

Mr. Good: Would they not be protected under the Archaeological and Historic Sites Protection Act?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have 70 per cent of the property purchased now, 30 per cent is under negotiation, and we just have two lots that we have to finalize and we hope to do that very shortly.

Mr. Haggerty: Are the burial grounds included in this?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Well surely they must be protected?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are private lands, you see. They were sold years ago. Mr. Keenan tells me they could be protected under the Act. We are moving very quickly on it and certainly we want to preserve them.

Mr. Reid: Is there any reason why you could not do that to ensure that they would be protected?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We could take that route, yes. I think we are equally interested in preserving this particular area. On this other point, I can assure you that we are working very closely with the Indians in that area, and it will be, I think for the first time,

a very extensive co-operative venture with the Indians in developing this particular area.

Mr. Reid: Thank you, Mr. Minister. I would like to stay and talk about a fish hatchery in the Rainy River district but I have some constituents waiting for me.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Pearson would like to hear your comments on that, I am sure.

Mr. Chairman: Any further discussion on recreational areas? Does item 2 carry?

Carried.

Item 3, fish and wildlife. There has been a suggestion made by some of the members of the committee that we could combine these two if it's favourable to the committee. We could combine fish and wildlife, item 3, with item 4 of vote 2204, commercial fish and fur, if that was satisfactory to the committee, because they are pretty much interrelated.

Mr. Good: In the next vote?

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Stokes: Everything dealing with fish and fur.

Mr. Chairman: Both items are interrelated. Would that be satisfactory to the committee?

Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): One of the most vivid things of last year's estimates that stands out in my memory is the presentation by the member for Thunder Bay for the need for more conservation officers in the ministry to enforce the fish and wildlife regulations that we do have. Throughout the year I have read a number of articles in the press stating that the regulations and the enforcement of the Act were being greatly thwarted because of the very fact that there were not enough conservation officers to do the job that was necessary.

Mr. Haggerty: The enforcement officers aren't doing it.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, they should be. At any rate, there came over my desk just recently a brief that was presented to the government of Ontario by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters Inc. I would like to refer to a few sections from this brief which gives added strength to the commitment that has been made by members of this committee that we must have more conservation officers available for enforcement.

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters holds strongly to the opinion that a

good enforcement policy is a prerequisite for developing public confidence in the ability of the Ministry of Natural Resources to do an adequate job of managing our renewable natural resources. They took a 20-year period between 1950 and 1970 with respect to the change of the enforcement efforts by this government. They found a very startling situation had developed, that the problem has become more serious, and that the amount of time actually spent on enforcement in 1970 as compared with the time spent away back in 1950 was very much less.

They said that they found that there had been a marked change in thinking during this 20-year period. Whereas total enforcement was the order of the day in 1950, it had become part enforcement and part persuasion and education of the poacher or law-breaker in 1970. While no one would argue that education is not beneficial, it is useless without good enforcement.

Another change has also taken place in that the enforcement officers are now collecting a lot of data on fish and wildlife while in the field. This also seriously detracted from the enforcement programme. They go on to question whether a man can do all three jobs adequately—enforcement, education and the collection of data—and felt the government might appoint another category of person to collect data.

They also pointed out that during the 20-year period, 1950 to 1970, the hunting pressure has increased at least twice on the average, the fishing pressure at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ times, and that the enforcement effort has decreased by $2\frac{1}{2}$ times. So they ask the question: Is it any wonder that sportsmen all over the province are seriously disturbed over the apparent lack of concern shown by the government for illegal taking of our fish and game?

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters feels very strongly that if the government of this province is to effectively discharge its responsibilities with respect to renewable resource management, and particularly fish and wildlife resources, it must comply with the following recommendations immediately:

1. Double the present conservation officer staff and have these officers spend practically all of their time on enforcement. This would bring roughly a $1\frac{1}{2}$ times increase in enforcement effort compared to 1950. They suggested that they establish fish and wildlife field technicians, at least four per district, to do the jobs of collection of data and that type of thing. They felt that a government move in this direction might lead to better enforce-

ment and better protection of our fish and wildlife.

They found the results of the change in thinking from 1950 to 1970 in a number of areas. For instance, in the Lindsay-Lake Simcoe-Parry Sound district there were $2\frac{1}{2}$ times fewer conservation officers engaged in hours of enforcement in 1970 than in 1950. Take the districts of Kapuskasing-Chapleau-Cochrane and Sault Ste. Marie-Sudbury-Swastika-North Bay. It was $2\frac{1}{4}$ times less in 1970 than 1950, in these two zones. Now I am referring to the pre-reorganization period.

You take the Thunder Bay-White River-Geraldton-Fort Frances-Sioux Lookout-Kenora zone and it is $3\frac{1}{4}$ times less in 1970 than in 1950. In the Kemptville-Tweed-Pembroke zone it is $3\frac{1}{2}$ times less.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Ferrier: In the Hespeler-Aylmer zone enforcement hours have been halved.

So a really critical situation has developed. One of the important things, if we are going to carry out the intent of the government in setting up its programmes and rules and regulations in regard to fishing and hunting, is to see that those who are engaged in these sports actually respect these laws and do not flagrantly abuse them. If your programme of enforcement has decreased to such a significant degree over that 20-year period, and if at the same time the pressure by those engaged in hunting and fishing has doubled, then this is one of the areas where you are going to have to increase your budget and have more men engaged in this undertaking spending more of their time on actual enforcement, and perhaps hire other people to do the jobs of education and the gathering of technical data that now you are asking your conservation officers to do.

Have you done anything since 1970, specifically this year? Have you any more conservation officers allotted? Are you going to increase the allotment and change the role of their work to make it more enforcement, and not have it divided amongst these other things that the anglers and hunters state are taking place? What kind of initiative or response can we expect from the ministry on this question?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, in response to that presentation concerning law enforcement and our conservation officers' work in the field, I think it's fair to say that there has been a change in philosophy over the last number of years to which you refer. Twenty years ago they were solely enforce-

ment officers per se. Now they are becoming more involved in giving direction to the general public, as you point out—going to schools and educating our young people, being actively involved in the wildlife management of the province.

So they are not policemen per se. They are all knowledgeable now and they are extending information to the travelling public, to our hunters and hunter-and-game clubs.

Over the past few months we have received a number of briefs, including the one to which you refer, and we've met on two occasions with the hunters and anglers federation to discuss this very issue. I think it's fair to say we've received a number of requests from municipalities in southern Ontario for an increase in the conservation officer complement.

Last year we were fortunate in having added to our regular conservation authority staff the 15 park enforcement officers we were able to obtain. They added, on a seasonal basis, to our regular staff, so we did have a minor increase.

I would say to you in the last three years we've embarked on a very ambitious programme of silviculture and forest regeneration. I think that was one of my first priorities. Last year, the member will recall, we announced an ambitious programme with regard to fish hatcheries and that is showing its effect now. This year we are preparing a very broad presentation, in view of the briefs that have been presented to us, for a large increase in complement for our conservation officers. I think that has gone to policy field—no, it has not gone to policy field yet. We are putting it together and we'll be requesting a real healthy increase in complement. Now, if we are successful, I don't know. But this will be our priority.

Mr. Ferrier: You'll certainly get our backing if you do.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I appreciate your comments. I think we agree with you.

Mr. Ferrier: I hope you will point out that members of the opposition feel very strongly about this, along with yourself, and that you'll use this support to try to persuade Management Board that it's a need that we feel should be met—it's more or less, I would suspect, an all-party sentiment in this House. I hope that they will be prepared to give some pretty favourable consideration to the request that you have had.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Your remarks are very timely.

Mr. D. J. Wiseman (Lanark): Could I ask along that line, just for a second—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Wiseman.

Mr. Wiseman: —did you put in a request to Management Board for more conservation officers and were turned down.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not yet, no. We are going to them with a very comprehensive overall programme right across the province.

Mr. Wiseman: But when you prepared your budget, did you not take your officers' advice that they need more conservation officers out in the field and perhaps put it in your budget? The budget looks so darn low here, compared with some others, that surely you could justify a few more officers in there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think last year we were fortunate in getting the 15 extra park enforcement complement. They are just used in the summertime, and in the off-season they add to our conservation officers.

Mr. Haggerty: Would that be extra personnel who were hired? I thought the bill would be—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, those were extra.

Mr. Haggerty: —I thought it was just changed to give them the powers to—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh no, those were extra people we got for that purpose.

Mr. Haggerty: —act the same as an ordinary —well, as a police officer—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right.

Mr. Haggerty: —so they can enforce the law, instead of waiting for the OPP to come in.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right. They were extra people we got and they were properly trained for crowd control and park management. And off-season—

Mr. Haggerty: Oh, I see—these were extra.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —they go into the conservation officer complement.

Mr. Stokes: They have nothing to do with the enforcement of fish and game regulations, though?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, they do.

Mr. Stokes: In parks, or any place in the province?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, right across the province.

Mr. Wiseman: But when they're busy, when we need them in the field to man the lakes and so on, they are working in the parks.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, this is one of our problems that they are only there part-time.

Mr. Wiseman: In the winter we really don't need them as much in fish and wildlife.

Mr. Stokes: Why wouldn't it be possible for the minister to start recruiting a person with ability to do many things? Now the minister has reclassified many of the people within his organization; people who were once called technicians 1, 2, 3 and 4. At certain times of the year they could be performing one task while at other times they could be performing other tasks. The minister may—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I may interrupt, there is no such position as a conservation officer now. They are resource technicians now.

Mr. Stokes: I know, but we use CO just because that was the parlance that was used in this ministry and department for years and to readily identify what we are actually talking about. Every time this comes up—and I am going to be fairly firm with the minister because when he was a private member he used to be just as vocal about the need for more surveillance and more enforcement as we were. Now that he is in a position where he's got to produce, he gives us the same thing that we have been getting for years: "Yes, we realize something must be done, but it is a matter of priorities."

Mr. Haggerty: The hon. member is not suggesting that we go on a quota basis?

Mr. Stokes: The hon. minister will hear what I am suggesting if he will just bear with me for a moment.

I am suggesting to this minister that he cannot properly manage and supervise the resources that we have in this province unless he has competent people in the field with which to do it. At one time everyone in this province was of the opinion that our resources were a bottomless pit and that you could draw on them in perpetuity without having regard for their depletion or the need for good husbandry to assure that they would be maintained at a fairly even level on a sustained yield basis.

Mr. Minister, you know that is not happening, particularly with regard to our fish and game. If you need a certain species of tree,

you can go out and you can plant them, but if you've got an over-exploitation of a certain species of fish or certain kind of wildlife it is not that easy. The only thing the minister can do is clamp down controls on the allowable take. Even if he does that, if he hasn't got proper surveillance the resource isn't going to be properly managed. There are going to be abuses.

The more I inquire around the province the more I am convinced it is absolutely essential that the minister stop procrastinating. Get people into the field, not only to crack the whip on a good many people who are abusing resources—and I don't refer only to individuals. This is also true of tourist operators who don't want to offend their clientele. They turn a deaf ear and blind eye to things that are going on while they have visitors, and not only from other jurisdictions. We have just as many offenders on our own doorstep. I am not going to chronicle all the abuses that have taken place with the virtual approval of many camp operators in the province just because they want their clientele to come back on a regular basis.

You know and I know that it isn't a bottomless pit. If we don't manage our fish and wildlife resources in a reasonable and responsible way, they are just not going to be around for future generations. Thus, your tourist industry, as it pertains to fish and game, is going to decline, and those very people who are allowing those abuses are going to come crying to you, asking, "What happened?"

Now, in all fairness to NOTOA, they are saying that this is their livelihood and we must protect those values that we have or not only won't they be around to continue their operation in a viable manner, but we won't have anything left for future generations.

Now, I didn't bring the actual statistics with me about the moose population. I have talked to a good many people in the field and both of us do a lot of flying in the remote areas of the province, and if you are not reading something of importance or preparing something for a meeting, you are usually looking out the window. I can truthfully say that I have only seen one moose from the air in all of the trips that I have made up north.

Now, I am not an expert at moose-spotting, so I go out of my way to ask the people who are responsible for conducting those surveys where they block out certain areas to do a moose count on so many square miles to assess what the population is doing, whether

it is remaining stable, or decreasing, or increasing. It is not a very precise science. The kinds of statistics that we are being fed would lead us to believe that we are harvesting just about right, and are maintaining our population.

Well, you can't convince the tourist operators of that. You can't convince hunters who go out year after year after year—fellows who know the bush. They just aren't Saturday afternoon hunters, but people who do it in a very sophisticated way.

Now, we do know that moose populations can be very mobile and that they tend to travel wherever the habitat is the best. But, given all of those things, there is no evidence that we can continue to harvest the number of moose that are being harvested on an annual basis and still expect them to be around in the same numbers in perpetuity. I can say the same thing with various fish species, and you know as well as I do, that there are a good many areas where you already have decreased the quota on lake trout for a very obvious reason—because the populations are declining and if you don't do something about it, they are just not going to be around in sufficient numbers to make it worthwhile talking about them. The same thing happens with pickerel in certain areas.

As I travel and chat with people, they say that you must have proper enforcement, particularly during the winter months when many of our prime species are much more vulnerable because of the increased mobility of people. They have the ability to get into many of these remote lakes in the winter—lakes almost impossible for the average person to reach in the summer months because of the rugged terrain and the travel conditions in those remote areas—for they are now accessible by snowmobile.

Increased pressure is being put on our fish populations as a result of this kind of activity. There is no way that we are going to maintain these populations at reasonable levels so that we can do it on a sustained yield basis to the extent that we are doing at the present time.

It is not a one-way street and it is not a simple problem. It is a complex problem, but we are not going to solve it by sitting around languishing and saying, "Well, we realize this has been a problem for a number of years but this hasn't gotten to the top of our priority list." I think that you must do many things in several areas on an interim basis, rather than say, "Let's do nothing." Unless somebody keeps haranguing you and really driving it home to you, you're not likely to do much

about it because it's the squeaky wheel that gets the grease. Every year when we come to these estimates we mention the need for more conservation officers to give nature a helping hand to the greatest extent possible and to allow it to rehabilitate itself. And the need exists to do the same thing in fish and wildlife management as you're doing—or you should be doing—in forest management with regard to giving nature a helping hand wherever it's necessary.

So that I say you can't procrastinate too long before you're going to reach the point where it's going to cost you so much money, or where the situation has degenerated to the state where it's irretrievable.

Here we are, another year later, saying: "Yes, hopefully in a year or two when we've taken care of our immediate priorities we will be able to come to grips with this."

I think the time to do it is now, even if you have to go to Management Board for supplementary estimates.

What is your complement of what we call conservation officers? I'm talking about those who are specifically charged with the responsibility for fish and game enforcement.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have about 200 actual law enforcement conservationists, as we know them. We have another 100 who are in the field and have a senior position over the conservation officers, who are not involved on a day-to-day basis.

Mr. Stokes: And how many of those who aren't out doing field work on a continuing basis?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we have the right to lay charges under the Act and this type of thing.

Mr. Stokes: What is your record of charges and convictions on violations?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They're increasing. In 1969, for example, we had—it varies—it was 3,557 and in 1970 we went to 5,000. In 1971 the number dropped down to 4,200; in 1972 it was 5,002; in 1973, 5,103. So we're in the 5,000 bracket for the number of convictions per year.

Mr. L. Maeck (Parry Sound): Are these convictions or prosecutions?

Mr. Haggerty: They're for just plain seizure of equipment, guns, fishing tackle.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will check that out. While Mr. Irizawa is checking it out, I just

want to touch on the moose situation. I accept your comments on the conservation officers. But where the moose situation is concerned, I can assure you that the direction we're heading in is the one to which you refer.

You will recall that up until about two years ago we used to give out and set our seasons on a three-year basis. I announced to NOTO about two years ago that this practice was going to be stopped because we were intensifying our management, particularly our moose management programme.

I think it's fair to say that we are receiving a number of reports from local people in the accessible areas where they can drive up in their recreational vehicles. There's a tremendous increase in the number of hunters.

Last year—the reports are coming in now—and for last fall we have figures of close to 100,000 moose hunters in the Province of Ontario, who represent a sizeable income, I must admit. Sure, we accept the fact that there was a shortage in the accessible areas. Our surveys indicate that our overall moose population is being maintained at about 100,000 to 125,000 moose across the province. Our harvest last year was close to 14,000.

We're concerned, and I can assure you that while the season has been set for 1974, there will be drastic changes. I say this, and I hope the public and the tourist operators hear my remarks, because there will be drastic changes in the moose season. In the allocation of licences we may even go to a quota system in certain areas. We're going to make the management areas much smaller than they are now so that we will be closely involved, more closely than we have ever been before. So, I serve notice now on those tourist operators who depend on moose hunting as a source of revenue and, indeed, the hunters themselves, the 100,000-odd hunters who will be coming to northern Ontario. This is May, 1974. They should prepare for some major changes in 1975, because we have the same concern that you do. We must maintain that herd. I think it's fair to say—

Mr. Stokes: Those are the very people who will come back and criticize you five years from now and ask, "Why didn't you tell us? Why didn't you do something about it?"

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right. We'll hear that criticism. Here we are giving them notice more than 1½ years ahead of time. I am waving that flag. I'm telling them—and I will be telling them for the next year—not to come back and say that we didn't notify them that we were making major changes, because those seasons that we have now are pretty well the

same seasons that we've had for a number of years. Except we did have the cutoff in the winter, and we've given the residents of Ontario a week's advance. This brought a tremendous amount of southern Ontario hunters into northern Ontario for the first time, because they found that they were not competing with the non-residents. They came up there in hordes, they really did. And rightly so, because the resource belongs to the people of the Province of Ontario.

We're on top of this and I'm hopeful I will be able to announce those changes late this fall.

Mr. Stokes: Yes. Well, okay. You're helping to make my point, I think. You say you are prepared to take action to see that populations are maintained and that you're going to manage the resource much more closely than you ever did before. To do that you're going to need more people in the field. It's going to take dollars, we all realize this.

But while you're preoccupied with other things, I think this is something that you must take action with now and bring them all along. You're going to have to be that much more vocal around the cabinet table. And I think that this is something that the public generally, particularly in northern Ontario, demands, because they want the resource managed in a wise and a sensible way.

If it's going to take dollars to do it then you've just got to be much more convincing with your arguments than you've ever been before. If you do a good job you're going to be complimented for it and people will thank you for having taken action when you should have taken action. I think we've reached that point right here and now.

I don't want to belabour the thing. We've made the point. I hope that you'll take us as seriously as we're trying to be about the thing. That's all I have to say on it.

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): Excuse me, are you saying that you are trying to encourage the southern Ontario hunters to come north? Is that what you're saying?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. I think we did that last year by giving the residents of Ontario a week's advance season—a week ahead of the non-residents for the first time.

Mr. Laughren: And this is a good thing, you're saying?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sure it's a good thing. I endorse it wholeheartedly.

I'll get back to the law enforcement—to

Mr. Haggerty's question. Last year, in 1973, we had 5,037 seizures, and we had 5,103 convictions. So, we're in that—

Mr. Haggerty: How many of those were, say, Americans?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Now, I don't know if it was broken down. I think—

Mr. Stokes: We're not that nationalistic in mind.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't have that breakdown.

Mr. Haggerty: You don't have that? Well, it would be interesting to know.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm sure if we did a lot of work we could find out.

Mr. Haggerty: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If we did a lot of research. We have no breakdown on the convictions regarding infractions.

Mr. Haggerty: How many licences were issued to Americans for moose and deer last year?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: About 13,000 non-resident for moose; and about 66,000 resident. That's in 1972. We're just bringing together our 1973 figures now.

Mr. Haggerty: You haven't got them together yet?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We can't afford a computer.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, I want to—

Mr. Chairman: We shall recess for the vote and return immediately afterwards.

The committee recessed at 4:20 o'clock, p.m., for a quorum call in the House and reconvened at 4:35.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman, I have a couple of other items that I want to deal with and then I will yield.

I have been getting some letters from a constituent who is an old-timer. I gather that years back the fish and game branch or anglers and hunters used to restock the lakes and rivers—up in my area, anyway—and perhaps in other parts of the province. He says that in those days there used to be quite a bit of restocking and there used to be some fairly good fishing. But since Lands and Forests took it over, he thinks that the programme has not been nearly as extensive and he no-

tices year after year the fishing potential going down and going down, particularly in the Matheson area.

I had some correspondence with you and it was referred to your district manager in Swastika. I have had correspondence from him and some very good co-operation from him. But despite the fact that you are doing a fair amount of restocking, it doesn't seem that you are really meeting the need in any significant degree.

Fishing, according to some of the people, is getting worse and worse. This may be overstating the case but there is quite a bit of disappointment in that area.

Of course, the people in that area want a fish hatchery located in Matheson or Iroquois Falls. You know, we have brought this up before and I don't know whether another fish hatchery is warranted or not. Perhaps the stock which you do have at your Hill Lake hatchery can meet the need and you can expand the amount of fish that you actually have there. But I think that the complaints that you hear, time and again, from around my area would indicate that more needs to be done about your restocking programme.

I don't know whether it involves further lake surveys or budget the streams. But I think that you need to take a second look at the policy in that area to see if there cannot be some more restocking done.

I have wondered, because it is such a good fish, why there don't seem to be any hatcheries for pickerel. I see from some newspaper cuttings from across the province that you occasionally will protect pickerel during the spawning season and close the season. I don't think this is sufficient, from the complaints I get I wonder, because it is such a very delicious fish, why you don't do some hatchery and some restocking of the pickerel.

And another aspect of it, as this old gentleman said, why not have some coho salmon up here? Maybe we can't have everything but at least I would like you to explain why some coho salmon in our area is not feasible. It may be a very good fish; I don't know too much about fishing. It kind of bothers me, trying to talk about some of these things sitting in an office, but these are good and valid questions that I think should be raised.

So can you tell me generally about the restocking in the northeast and whether you feel that the Hill Lake hatchery is sufficient. Can the amount of fish that you have there be expanded? Can more restocking be done in my area? What about pickerel and what about coho salmon?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well if I could respond and I'll ask Mr. Ken Irizawa, the executive director of fish and wildlife, to just get into the details. Maybe some of his staff could get into the technical aspects of it. I might say that Mr. Irizawa has been with the ministry for some 21 years now and is recognized—

Mr. Stokes: He is getting on.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —as one of the experts in the field. He has worked for the ministry from Pembroke to Kenora. Now he is at the head office here in Toronto.

I would just like to comment and give you an idea of the increased pressures that we have in regard to angling across the province. You realize that we don't have a residents licence so we don't have a hand on the exact numbers. If you compare it to the non-residents, it is much higher, but the same trend will occur in the resident angling. In 1962, we had 433,000 anglers from outside the province. In 1972, we are up to 680,000. So we see that kind of pressure added to our own people's increased leisure time, longer weekends, larger disposable income. And they are fishing now 12 months of the year. They get their Skidoos and their outboard motors and—

Mr. Stokes: Stealing my lines.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —the pressure on our lakes is increasing day by day.

Mr. Haggerty: You can almost carry this a point further then. You almost have to put a ban on fishing for a couple of years to restock.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think it has reached that proportion yet.

Mr. Haggerty: I think that's the point the member for Thunder Bay was going to get at.

Mr. Ferrier: It's possible.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There are some lakes where the pressure is extreme. I think you would have to say that; I would have to admit that. Where the lakes are accessible, that is where you get the tremendous pressure. But there is certainly a lot of good fishing in Ontario; we have something like 250,000 lakes.

Mr. Haggerty: Tell me where, will you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll tell you, if you want to follow me around this weekend I will show you, because that is where I am going. I want to put into the record, just for your information—

Mr. Stokes: Aren't you going to campaign for Arnold this weekend?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not this weekend, I'm afraid.

This is an example out of Hill Lake. This is the distribution, and the culture that came out of that particular plant. With regard to brook trout: 15,000 fry; 30,000 fingerlings; 243,450 yearlings; 18,900 two-year-olds; and 659 adults. Lake trout: 100,000 yearlings. Rainbow trout: 15,000 fingerlings and 16,000 yearlings. That is out of the Hill Lake fish hatchery.

And North Bay, of course, contributes to the lakes in northeastern Ontario. The totals there were 54,000 brook trout yearlings, 58,500 lake trout yearlings, and 75,000 rainbow trout yearlings. So you've got two hatcheries there that are really producing.

Mr. Haggerty: Where does the end product go? What streams did you put them in? Or what lakes?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They're distributed into the various lakes of northeastern Ontario.

Mr. Haggerty: How many of them go to private clubs?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: None.

Mr. Haggerty: The conservation authorities, do they make the request for, say, small brook trout?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll ask Mr. Irizawa to elaborate a little further. He tells me that the conservation authorities do get a consideration in some of our areas, but it's not that great. Ken, would you please comment?

Mr. K. K. Irizawa (Executive Director, Division of Fish and Wildlife): First, Mr. Chairman, in reply to Mr. Ferrier. I can appreciate why some of the old-timers feel left out, because they're recalling the days when they packed cans of fish into some tiny lake. But as you know, we use aircraft, helicopters, whatever is available now. And we feel that we're putting a better product in the waters—quicker, and in many cases in greater numbers, because you couldn't get too much in the packed can.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Better survival rate.

Mr. Irizawa: Yes.

Mr. Ferrier: What is the percentage of the survival rate?

Mr. Irizawa: You can't make any pat answer about that because it depends. In

some places I suppose it's as low as one per cent. In other places you're getting a much higher one—approaching 85 per cent or something like that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I wonder, Mr. Irizawa, if you would comment on Mr. Ferrier's question with regard to pickerel and coho?

Mr. Irizawa: Well, my understanding of the pickerel situation—and I'll ask Mr. Loftus too. We used to be in the pickerel culture business years ago, and it was one difficult proposition because once they hatched we had to keep on pumping food into them. This was live minnows which we were out gathering to feed them. And if we don't do this, of course pickerel are very carnivorous, so they begin eating their own and the big get bigger and you're getting fewer fish. It's a losing proposition.

The other method was planting eyed eggs, but this again was trying to do, you might say artificially, what nature was already doing in these locations. So lately we've chosen to use, as you've said, the method of sanctuary—for the protection of spawning areas and more surveillance, this sort of technique—to look after the pickerel. Now, Mr. Loftus might comment further or with respect to coho.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I might just add a comment there and maybe Ken could elaborate a little further. I've heard so many comments—and this is a question, believe it or not, coming from me—on the prolific characteristics of walleye. Many biologists have told me that one female walleye can probably give more eggs than anything we could do artificially. Would you comment on that, Ken?

Mr. K. H. Loftus (Director, Sport Fisheries Branch): Well, certainly walleyes are among the most prolific of the fish that we have in the province. Given suitable spawning grounds, and I think this generally the case throughout the major part of the province, the limiting factor on the angler's ability to catch walleyes is not lack of reproduction. I think it's the ability of our waters, as of our lands, to produce a number of pounds of a product in a year. I think in a lot of our waters, in specific waters across the province, we have reached that productive limit. And as more people are involved, then, of course, their personal experience as individual fishermen is a little bit less.

I think the only situations in which we can plant walleyes of one size or another and

have it pay off is where there is a definite deficiency of natural spawning area.

Insofar as the coho is concerned, of course this gets into the whole area of non-native species. And while we have had some good experience with exotics such as the rainbow trout, most of our experience has been on the negative side—like the sea lamprey, carp, smelt, alewives. In general those have not been very happy experiences. If one were to plant coho, assuming one could find a lake in the north suitable for them, you might get some coho back, but the pounds that you would get back in that form would be at the expense of one of the native species pretty well adapted to that kind of situation. In general we like to stay away from exotics.

The other problem you have in a thing like coho is that you are depending on a source of eggs from outside the province. You cannot maintain a source of viable eggs if your coho are living their entire life cycle in fresh water. And that makes it kind of a dicey proposition, because they could be cut off.

Mr. Ferrier: Thank you very much. The other item I want to deal with is one that I dealt with a little bit in a previous vote, but they said it came more properly under this one. It is the result of a long discussion with tourist outfitter who raises a number of questions. One of the questions he raises is that a man in Cleveland, Ohio, is selling Ontario hunting licences to clients in Cleveland. He even does this through the mail with no close check on previous hunting experience as is made by issuers here in Ontario.

Is this legal? Can Ontario licences be sold in the US by people there? How could this ever be done?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that we do allow issuers along our borders in Manitoba and Ontario, and in Cyclone Island in the US—it is on the border between Minnesota and Ontario. I am not aware of this particular issuer located in—Cleveland, is it?

Mr. Ferrier: Cleveland. The man gives his name here.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's news to me.

Mr. Ferrier: He says his name is William Lee Birch.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Bob, would you have this? Bob MacBean, the director of administration.

Mr. R. R. MacBean (Executive Director, Finance and Administration Division): Yes, sir, we have had two issuers, I believe, in the State of Ohio—one in Cleveland, one in Toledo. They sell fishing licences to the fishermen who leave the ports of Cleveland and Toledo, cross over the international boundary, but do not come into the Canadian shore.

Mr. Ferrier: How could they? He says they are selling hunting licences, too. Is that possible?

Mr. MacBean: To the best of my knowledge they do not sell hunting licences, just fishing licences.

Mr. Ferrier: This man complains that these men gather a group of hunters or fishermen together and bring them to Ontario. They stay at a motel or some similar place, and then they go out hunting or fishing, paying none of the outfitters' licence fees or anything like this. And they sell these hunts in the US and come up here maybe having a good hunt or maybe not. They bring many of their supplies in from the US. And they undercut the local outfitters who are properly licensed and who pay sales tax for all their goods, and their licence fee and this kind of thing. It is putting them at an unfair advantage. And it is a case of outsiders taking advantage of us here in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I might just comment, that possibility exists for every non-resident. In other words, we refer to them—I think Mr. Stokes uses the term—as the “pork and beaners” in northwestern Ontario, who come in with everything but the dock. And they buy a licence and are free to organize a hunt trip or a fishing trip once they are here. But the point you raise is that they are selling hunting licences in the US. And we will certainly check that out, because I don't think that was our intent at all.

Mr. MacBean: That's possible.

Mr. Ferrier: I appreciate that. This man also raises another question about wildlife management. He says that it is not altogether the hunters who are necessarily responsible for any loss of numbers. He says that controlled burns, or when you defoliate deciduous trees by aircraft spraying toxic chemicals, little animals and birds and so on are killed and it has quite a serious effect. I wonder if he is referring to the spruce budworm spraying programme. How serious, in your estimation, are the spraying of these chemicals and these controlled burns, and how much of an

effect does this have on animal life and this kind of thing?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask Art Herridge, the assistant deputy minister for resources and recreation, to comment on that.

Mr. A. J. Herridge (Assistant Deputy Minister, Resources and Recreation): Mr. Chairman, the question with respect to whether controlled burns are detrimental to wildlife populations, as Mr. Irizawa pointed out earlier, is one that requires a qualified answer. But in general we would not regard controlled burns or, in many instances, wildfires as being detrimental to big game. They in fact recycle the forest from an older age class to a younger age class. They make the shrubs and young growth available very quickly to the deer or moose or other species. So I wouldn't think that controlled burns would be regarded as detrimental.

One of the problems that has been identified as a cause of the shortage of white-tailed deer over much of southern Ontario has been the extent to which our improved forest protection has reduced the amount of acreage burned. In general terms, our view would be that fires tend to be good for the production of wildlife.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, are small animals sometimes killed in those burns?

Mr. Herridge: This is a possibility. Or nesting habitat for birds, this again is true. With respect to the release of chemicals or herbicides for spraying unwanted vegetation in the interest of releasing planted stock that might be underneath—poplar, birch, willow or what have you—our programme using chemicals, either 2,4,5T or 2,4D is quite a modest programme. There has been no evidence to suggest that either of these chemicals is harmful to wildlife. In terms of total acreage of forest in the province, the amount of chemical that we are using for this programme is very small.

Mr. Ferrier: So in your opinion it does not have a significant effect on the wildlife of this province?

Mr. Herridge: Correct.

Mr. Ferrier: There is one other item. A man complains that a couple of people from the Quebec side of the border in the north-east come and throw a lot of garbage along the side of the road as an enticement to bear. Then they bring people over from the Quebec side of the border to hunt bear in Ontario. If you found people deliberately strewing garbage along the roads on the borders of this

province, presumably for this kind of thing, is there any way you would have of laying some kind of charge or exercising some kind of control to stop that type of thing?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Certainly if there is an untold amount of garbage left around we could be charging them under the Public Lands Act. But they do allow them to bait for bear. It is not uncommon to put out a bunch of suckers or fish or this type of thing to attract the bear.

Mr. Ferrier: You could distinguish between a legitimate bear set and a fellow who would indiscriminately put garbage there as a means of attracting bears. I suppose it might be open to some discussion if it was found there, but your officials would be in a position to evaluate whether it was indiscriminate dumping even if it had a hunting motive. If people come in from Quebec and they shoot a bear or whatever it might be in Ontario, they still have to get a licence to do so?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, yes.

Mr. Ferrier: Are licences transferable? If a licence was taken out in my name and there were three or four in the party and another person shot it, would my licence be the one that presumably was the one that that bear was shot on?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask Mr. Irizawa to reply to that.

Mr. Irizawa: The party hunting of bears is not in effect yet, is it, Mr. Shannon?

Mr. J. A. Shannon (Field Supervisor, Wildlife Branch): No, it isn't. It is recommended because this is the first year that we have had a bag limit on black bears.

Mr. Irizawa: Mr. Chairman, this is Mr. Shannon, wildlife branch.

Mr. Shannon: The regulation was passed, and it's one bear per licence for residents. Prior to this year, there had been a bag limit for non-residents and a provision made for party hunting; that is, if five members of a party are hunting bear together, there is a probability that the one man in the party would be the lucky one and shoot the five bears. This was permissible. We have asked for amendments to the statutes to provide for party hunting for residents, simply because this is the first year that we have it in, but it is permissible.

Mr. Ferrier: Fine.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Your licence couldn't be transferred to Mr. Stokes to go out and hunt by himself.

Mr. Ferrier: If I buy the licence, presumably I am the one who is supposed to shoot the bear or whatever it might be. I think that's all that I want to take up the committee's time on this particular issue.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Wiseman.

Mr. Wiseman: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Stokes and Mr. Ferrier have mentioned the conservation officers. I mentioned this last year as well. Along with that there are the extra duties that we are asking the conservation officers to do in our area, such as looking after the compensation for damage done by wolves and the beaver problem that we have. I know our lad in Kemptville is supposed to look after predator control, but it usually ends up in the conservation officer's lap. There is also the fact that we have such an influx of people from the Ottawa area, and I understand from some of the tourist operators that a lot of people from Toronto are coming down that way and buying cottages, and we do have so many lakes. We have at the present time two full-time officers, one part-time, and the supervisor of wildlife. Again this year is there any chance of us getting additional conservation officers for Lanark county?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have no increased complement, other than what I have just pointed out for this year, for conservation officers. I think this is one of the arguments that we will be using in our presentation to Management Board, that their duties are becoming broader.

Mr. Wiseman: They are brought up to investigate a wolf kill maybe in the north part of the riding and they could be going down to another part later on, and they are running all around. Then we run into the problem that they don't get there for a few days, and then what happens? Was it killed by a wolf or was it killed by a dog?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I might say we are changing that.

Mr. Wiseman: We are right in the middle of it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are changing that under the Wolf Damage to Live Stock Compensation Act. That will be transferred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. That

will relieve the conservation officer of that responsibility.

Mr. Wiseman: Can you tell us now if it does boil down to the fact that your men don't get there on time? One blames the county and its dogs and the other claims it should come under the wildlife branch here.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Under the compensation Act we set up about a year or a year and a half ago, we had a little over 1,000 claims last year. We only denied something like 35, so there wasn't a great deal of problem there.

I think the problem was in filing. A lot of paper work was involved. I think this is where our biggest problem arose. The actual number of refusals was very, very minimal. Once I pointed that out to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and gave them those statistics, they were satisfied that we were doing all we could but the paperwork and the time lag, as you correctly point out, is something we hope to correct by passing that responsibility over to the Minister of Agriculture and Food (Mr. Stewart) who administers the Wolf Damage to Live Stock Compensation Act in conjunction with the counties. We will streamline that and speed up that whole operation.

Mr. Irizawa: The objective here is that there be a common evaluator or valuer so that the landowner is not placed in the position of having to go to the municipal evaluator. If, in his opinion, it's a wolf, then he has to turn around and get a conservation officer. I still think our conservation officers will be involved to the extent they may have to verify, on the evidence there, that it was a wolf but the paper processing should be reduced considerably. You don't have what you might call an adversary situation because you'll have it in the one man. As Mr. Bernier said, we are having talks right now with the agricultural people to try to get the two wedded together.

Mr. Wiseman: We do have one or two cases in our area when they never got there in time and the evaluator for the county said, "We can't say whether it's wolves or dogs." I think the conservation officer said the same. They were notified in lots of time; it was just that they were pretty busy and they weren't able to come right then. Maybe dogs did get after it later on.

The other thing is will the open season for deer this year in Lanark and Leeds and Frontenac be the same as it was last year or are you looking at a change?

Mr. Shannon: I think there is a change, a very small change, but I couldn't verify what it might be at this time. I haven't got a copy of the recommendations with me.

Mr. Irizawa: I am going on memory alone; I believe it's a week but I wouldn't swear to it.

Mr. Wiseman: In the three counties?

Mr. Irizawa: We can give you the information; it's already passed. I can see that we get the information to you.

Mr. Wiseman: Will the checking station in Kennebec area be open again this year? Robin Hepburn, who's there, does a really good job; he has the respect of all the hunters and they would like to see him there again.

Mr. Irizawa: Mr. Roseborough, who is the director of the fish and wildlife research branch, nods yes.

Mr. Wiseman: Will you have a ruling in regard to back patches? I understand a lot of the field and rod and gun clubs in the area have written about that, wondering if they could do away with that for eastern Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say, due to the representations we have had and from our own experience, it's not working totally as it ought. We thought it would go the full route. I think it does serve a purpose but not in its entirety. We are reviewing our position on the whole matter of back patches. It's difficult to say how far we go at this time but we are looking at it.

Mr. Wiseman: The problem seems to be they put them on heavy jackets maybe and then they come out in a hurry to go duck hunting or something and leave the darn things home.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They leave the jackets, yes.

Mr. Wiseman: Some of the officers have been real keen on fining them, and they get uptight.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Some of our officers are more aggressive than others in this respect but we're having a serious look at it. I think it is fair to say we are not 100 per cent satisfied.

Mr. Wiseman: In our area in eastern Ontario we have a lot of winter fishing and fishing huts and I thought we had them licensed but I understand we don't. There's an awful lot of crap and that getting into the water. They don't take the huts off in time and when

the conservation officer goes around he finds the hut partly sunk and there is nothing on it to say who owned it. If they had to have a licence on it, I think it would make it a lot better.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, that is something the Minister of the Environment (Mr. W. Newman) has taken a very active interest in, and we passed that responsibility over to him. It wasn't a real resource management programme or project which would normally fall under the Ministry of Natural Resources. It was a pollution problem, as you correctly point out, and that authority now has been moved over to his ministry. He will be taking charge and requesting that these ice huts be properly registered so that they have identification.

Mr. Wiseman: In regard to the beaver and the drains—and we have a lot of them down our way—I've been telling them to get in touch with our conservation officers and they'll probably put a qualified trapper in there to trap them out. Now I'm told I'm telling them wrong. Is this right? I know we have only one predator control officer and he's run ragged down there. We need another one or two. But will the conservation officers assist the farmers in getting a qualified trapper to get rid of them?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we will. I just want to comment further on that particular point. I spoke to the Ontario Trappers' Association on at least two occasions and pointed out to them, particularly to those trappers in southern Ontario, that we were not harvesting our full quota of beaver and it is causing us certain problems as you correctly pointed out.

Last year we harvested a little over 180,000; we should have taken well over 240,000 beaver. Many of the trappers have a quota of 20, 30 and 40 beavers in their own particular licensed area; they are only taking five or 10. I indicated to them that we could not tolerate this. It was not part of good resource management. If that quota was given to them, then we would have to ask them to harvest closer to what their quota is. That notice and that information has already been extended to all the trappers in southern Ontario. If they don't trap the beaver, we'll take steps to get trappers who are interested in trapping them.

Mr. Wiseman: The other one—I spoke to you briefly one time in the House about it—is in regard to frogs. When you read on the menu about frogs' legs, they come mostly

from eastern Ontario—in the four counties there. The lads would like to be able to legally use a spear. It would just mean writing it on the licence. Apparently the spring of the year when the suckers are running is the only time you can legally carry a spear. They'd like a small spear to spear the frogs. Also some of the fellows start in one county and go all through the four counties. They'd like it that the licence was for one county only, so one from Lanark couldn't go into Frontenac or the one from Frontenac couldn't come into Lanark.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Certainly that is one subject I'm not qualified to speak on.

Mr. Wiseman: The other thing was that the season be advertised, because a lot of our tourists are taking them any time.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Take that smirk off your face, Mr. Maeck. Is there an expert on frogs here? Not a frog, but an expert on frogs.

Mr. Wiseman: They get \$.50 a pound and it is quite a business for some of these people.

Mr. Irizawa: I can recall we used to use red flannel on a fish hook with a long bamboo pole as the most successful method.

Mr. Wiseman: Some do it that way. But these professional-type fellows have a little spear. From the way the licence reads at the present time, if they are caught they could be fined.

Mr. Irizawa: In certain seasons if they have a spear within so much of the water they are in trouble.

Mr. Wiseman: I think so. But they thought that it could be written on their licence that they carry the spear for the purpose of frogging. The other thing is that the licence be just for a particular county—not that they can move from county to county as some of them do. They don't leave any for seed; they take them all sizes, as I understand.

Mr. Irizawa: Maybe we can get it into the commercial fish and fur branch. You are talking of a commercial proposition here.

Mr. Wiseman: What do they pay now, \$10 for a licence?

An hon. member: In frog hunting?

Mr. Maeck: Do we have such a thing as a frog licence?

Mr. Wiseman: I think it is the same as a trappers' licence.

An hon. member: A county licence or something.

Mr. Wiseman: Maybe I can get some information, because they are concerned.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We can give you that information, we would be glad to.

Mr. Wiseman: The other thing my county council wants to know is what you would do if they put the bounty back on and paid the bounty for wolves—if they went ahead and paid it like they used to? They are hoping that you would have left it on a county basis and left it up to each county to decide whether they want it or not.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is fair to say that the government policy is that there will be no bounty paid on any animal.

Mr. Wiseman: I understand some counties are doing it now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I understand they are, too. It is really a legal interpretation we are looking at.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): You don't look very hard.

Mr. Stokes: Oh, there is a split!

Mr. Haggerty: There are frogs up around the Grand River.

Mr. Wiseman: I know that is one you probably don't want to comment on. But I said it last year and I will say it again.

I don't know how these fish and wildlife fellows are encouraged with the size of the budget they have. You saw the one the other day for parks. Then you get a release like this from Mr. Bennett's office telling about the 250,000 lakes we have, and as many streams and rivers. They are advertising our fish and what good fishing we have and we come up with a budget of \$12 million for fish and wildlife. I think we will have to get that up. We saw a 50 per cent increase in parks. Surely we can justify the same amount of fish and wildlife.

Mr. Stokes: Do you ever bring it up in caucus?

Mr. R. B. Beckett (Brantford): Don't answer that. It is none of your goddam business.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will use those remarks, Mr. Wiseman.

Mr. Wiseman: Okay.

Mr. Chairman: Are you finished, Mr. Wiseman?

Mr. Wiseman: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Germa.

Mr. M. C. Germa (Sudbury): Mr. Chairman, I think the minister is quite familiar with the buffalo herd that was decimated because of lack of protection from our game and fish officers. This is an indication of what Mr. Stokes was talking about.

This was a completely viable herd at one stage in our history. Due to lack of enforcement the thing has been decimated to the point where, as far as I understand, the minister has completely given up as far as the herd is concerned. The excuse is, as far as I understand, that they were in such a remote area you couldn't get officers in to protect them from poachers. It seems strange to me that the local press can get in and knows whenever a poacher has been active; they will go in and take a picture of a carcass lying in the snow. Now the press can get in, or could get in, and there were pictures in the newspapers as recently as this winter showing the poachers are still active there. Has the ministry given up on this herd or is there any hope at all for it to be brought back?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: As I understand it, this is a matter of long standing. It was a deal made with the minister of the day several years ago. There was a trade, as I recall, a certain number of buffalo for—

Mr. Irizawa: It is at the Burwash Farm.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, this was at the Burwash Farm he referred to. There was some trade made with a western minister. The feeling of the experts that I have talked to about the buffalo herd there is that they were brought into a habitat completely foreign to them. That was a mistake.

Mr. Stokes: Plains buffalo?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: These are open range buffalo and they should have been left on the open range but they were brought into a forested area. Their habitat was just not something they lent themselves to.

I don't think it is fair to say that we completely abandoned them. I don't think that we are excited about a continuation of a herd under those circumstances.

Mr. Germa: That was the unique part about it, that these plains animals were able

to adapt because they had been down in that area for 15 or 20 years. They have survived. If they had been protected from poachers I think that herd would have continued to grow. But if it was your attitude that because they were not native to the area they shouldn't survive, you have to stand condemned for taking that attitude.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask Mr. Ken Irizawa, who is a biologist, to comment on that.

Mr. Irizawa: My understanding, Mr. Chairman, is that this was just a small remnant herd and they were not necessarily all poached. I understand some were killed by trains and what have you. I am not saying they weren't poached but I know Jim Sheppard in Sudbury mentioned that trains were knocking off the odd one. The population was small. We did afford them protection in the Act, but, again, our officers aren't there all the time. I can't say definitively how much enforcement they place with respect to them.

Mr. Germa: I guess we'll have to accept the fact that the herd is going to disappear then.

Mr. Irizawa: The last word I heard is that there weren't too many to start with and there is virtually none now.

Mr. Germa: There are still a few kicking around. Enough to drag in the odd poacher; they still knock off the odd one each winter.

Mr. Stokes: They certainly bend over backwards to protect the remnant herds of caribou in Ontario and they're not noted for multiplying with any great speed. They're in the wrong habitat, but nevertheless they continue to survive and I know that your people out in the region will do everything possible to see that the situation is maintained so that they can survive. They are very well protected. I think that most of your conservation officers, to the extent that they're able, are quite proud that—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The buffalo are protected by legislation.

Mr. Stokes: They're protected by legislation all right, but the thing is I have two or three caribou herds in my riding and they go out of their way to sort of monitor them, on a continuing basis, to see that nothing untoward is going on. It's wrong to say that it will never be a viable herd because it's the wrong habitat and it was a mistake in the first place. How many buffalo are there left

outside of the national parks in the west? I think that Mr. Germa makes a good point.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It was my understanding—and maybe Mr. Irizawa can bear me out—that the buffalo is certainly not an endangered species in western Canada. The numbers are not as plentiful as they were at the turn of the century, but they are not an endangered species and they're not native to Ontario lands. I want to make that point clear. There are many on private farms. My own personal friend from St. Thomas had a Centennial project. He started out with five. The Chairman knows him very well. What has he got now? Eight or nine?

Mr. Chairman: About a dozen.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: About a dozen: He keeps them around the house as pets. There are other areas too. Sault Ste. Marie, I believe, has a few. So there are some of them around.

Mr. Maeck: There's one north of Barrie too.

Mr. Haggerty: Marineland in Niagara Falls has a herd of buffalo. You've got to feed them all winter long.

Mr. Germa: These animals were looking after themselves. They could stand the cold weather and they adapted to the terrain. I know they're not native there. I don't know how they did it, but they certainly did adapt.

Mr. Haggerty: The only protection down there is a fence.

Mr. Germa: Another point I'd like to raise, Mr. Chairman, is the pheasant programme which I understand the ministry runs, whereby you have a pheasant hatchery and at certain periods of time and in certain locations you put these pheasants in the bush and you allow people to buy a licence to come in and shoot the pheasant on a put-and-take basis.

I just wondered how extensive this programme is. What locations do you choose to release these birds? How many dollars are spent? How many birds a year would you give away in this fashion?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll ask Mr. Irizawa to give you all those details. This has come to my attention. Some people think it's a very barbaric way of hunting.

Mr. Haggerty: That is true. It's not sportsmanship.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They feel that the pheasants are tame when they're released. I have to say to you, have you ever been hunting pheasants when they have been released?

Mr. Laughren: Why don't you tie them to a tree when you release them?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You've got to be a good shot, and tame or not tame you want to be on your toes, because these things are fast.

Mr. Germa: Well, if you just took a fellow and as soon as he bought his licence you handed him his pheasant you'd save all that noise. I'd like to get the details of how extensive this is? What kind of dollars are you talking about? How many birds? How many locations are there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Irizawa.

Mr. Irizawa: In the pheasant programme, Mr. Germa, the expenditures are approximately \$60,000 overall. I don't have the exact figures, but I would suspect perhaps 15 per cent of this would be devoted to the release of pheasants in provincial wildlife areas such as at Gananoque, at the one near Brighton and in some of the provincial parks, which are suited for this in their off-season. I would guess half a dozen parks provide pheasant shoots, as well as some other areas that aren't parks.

Besides this, the private sector carries a great portion of the ball on this too. There are quite a number of private shooting preserves or game preserves—call them what you will—sprinkled throughout southern Ontario mostly.

Mr. Germa: Well, if you plant 50 birds, do you then sell licences to 50 people to come in and get those birds?

Mr. Irizawa: There is a relationship worked out, yes. When I had some involvement and knowledge of it, it used to be that three birds per hunter were released; but that didn't guarantee three birds per hunter, because there were escapees and other losses.

Mr. Germa: What I am coming to is why this activity is restricted to southern Ontario? I understand that you have no stations north of the French River where you go through this routine of giving away pheasants?

Mr. Irizawa: I think there was one on St. Joseph Island, but again it's a matter of climate and suitability of land.

Mr. Germa: Well, if it is strictly on a put-and-take basis, if you put in 100 and take out 100, what does it matter what the environment is?

Mr. Stokes: They are not going to be around long enough anyway.

Mr. Irizawa: In the private sector, for instance, there was one in Kenora, on the Minaki Rd., but it wasn't a very successful venture.

Mr. Stokes: You mean that so many of them got away? Is that what you mean? That too many of them got away? What a shame!

Mr. Irizawa: He sold more to the hotels, I think.

Mr. Germa: Mr. Chairman, the complaints I'm getting from people up north is that this expenditure is going on in one particular section of the province while another section of the province is deprived of this very sophisticated way of hunting.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, but those people have the right to come down here and hunt too. I can also say to you that in northern Ontario, where we have the moose, we spend thousands and thousands of dollars on moose management—and that is solely for northern Ontario.

Mr. Germa: Yes, but do you raise—

Mr. Laughren: Why do you encourage southern people to go up there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You can go both ways. The habitat here is more suitable for pheasant hunting, and the habitat in the northern part of the province is more suitable for hunting moose. So they can be exchanged.

Mr. Haggerty: There are many conservation clubs in the Niagara area, for example, that go out and purchase those day-old chicks, and raise them for about three months before they let them go in the fall. So they do have to pay for them.

Mr. Stokes: Conservation clubs?

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, they do.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Germa: I am talking about the ministry's hatchery programme, where they hatch a bird and feed it, then they put it in the bush and practically give it to a person. Now, they don't do that with the moose. You don't raise and domesticate a moose, then tie it to

a tree and tell a fellow to go shoot it. But here in the case of pheasants, you are raising a domesticated bird and turning it loose.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are not domesticated. Ken will answer that.

Mr. Irizawa: At most of these provincial wildlife areas there is a fee, Mr. Germa, so the birds are not given away free, as far as that goes.

Mr. Germa: I understand that, but a person who is quite wrapped up in this programme complained to me that it cost him \$300 to come from northern Ontario for a shoot that was going on in Point Pelee, I believe. He had travelled all the way from that area to come down here and get his three pheasants or whatever it was that the government had reared for him. That's a pretty expensive pheasant.

If it is government policy to release these birds on a put-and-take basis in a certain environment, just because they are farm land birds and not woodland birds, if you are just going to put them in and take them right out, what does it matter what kind of foliage or cover that they are released in?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We could carry that argument one step further, you know, that we shouldn't have fish hatcheries because we domesticate the fish and they are on a put-and-take basis. Mr. Ferrier has pointed out he wants more of those put-and-take instances—

Mr. Germa: Yes, but you don't restrict that programme geographically—it's province-wide. My complaint is that this programme, if it is going to be sustained, should be province-wide—or even extended.

Mr. Irizawa: Incidentally, Pelee Island is what you might call a private entrepreneurial venture by the township down there. It's their money not provincial money, going in there. I understand they charge a reasonably high licence fee—

Mr. Shannon: It's \$60.

Mr. Irizawa: Sixty dollars?

Mr. Haggerty: They almost guarantee the birds, though.

Mr. Irizawa: They have a high stake, too. It's not two or three but eight or 10 birds.

Mr. Germa: I probably used the wrong place, but it was a government-sponsored

shoot that this person went to; and it was on account of this that I raised the objection.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's a good point.

Mr. Germa: One more small point that I have had trouble with is with these commercial fish licences. It's beyond my scope of comprehension to understand how people can trade in a licence issued by the government, such as when you have a commercial fish licence that you can go out and peddle for an amount of dollars.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, they don't trade. They can't traffic in the licence.

Mr. Germa: Well, they are doing it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: What they do sell is their equipment. That's what the price is based on. The price is not based on the licence at all. What he does buy and what he sells, are such things as nets, the boats, his docking facilities, and his ice-house. That's what the price is based on, not on the licence itself.

Mr. Germa: Well, what would you call a proposition where a man has a licence and doesn't use it and there is another man fishing on shares? The licence-holder gets 60 per cent of the take and the man who supplies the boat, the muscle and the nets, gets 40 per cent of the take. Now is that not trafficking in a licence, when the man doing the work only gets 40 per cent of the take? Just because a man happens to have his licence, which he does not use or cannot use, maybe on account of age, he can peel 60 per cent off a man who is willing and able to go make a living catching fish.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, what does the other fellow own though? Does he own the equipment?

Mr. Germa: He owns only the licence. All other equipment is supplied by the share fisherman. Now, in my discussion with the ministry officials, they tell me that share-cropping is in our history. You know, this goes back to feudal days. I know that we used to be hired by share-croppers in our British system, and apparently it still persists in the fishing industry, because this man who is only getting 40 per cent is, in fact, a share-cropper.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I will ask Mr. Brubacher just to comment on that point. But I want to say to you that we have begun a review of the commercial fishing licences, and that many—this may be off your point

slightly—commercial fishing licences are not being used, and it's not conducive to good fish management. Those fish licences are given to harvest a certain quota of a certain species, to keep a certain balance, and of course to add a certain economic return. And if they are not being used over one or two or three years, then we are considering taking steps to cancel those licences, and put them in the hands of people who will use them. I will just ask Mr. Brubacher to comment on the share-cropping to which Mr. Germa refers.

Mr. M. J. Brubacher (Director, Commercial Fish and Fur Branch): That would be a licensee having someone else—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, the point was that an individual holds a commercial fishing licence and then takes a percentage of his take as a royalty, so to speak.

Mr. Brubacher: Yes, a commercial fishing licence holder may be on the boat himself, and operate it himself. He may employ a captain and a crew. Indeed, some licence holders haven't been aboard their own vessels for several years. They stay on shore, and carry on other parts of their business. In that case they hire a captain and a crew. They may be paid daily or weekly wages, or they may be paid a share of the catch.

Mr. Germa: Do you know of any instance where the licence holder doesn't supply any boat, nets, or anything, other than the licence which permits the taking of commercial fish?

Mr. Brubacher: I don't know of any, personally. The situation probably could arise. A licensee might find it more to his advantage, sir, to lease or rent or obtain gear by some such arrangement, rather than purchasing. This is considered normal business practice in certain circumstances. I am not certain whether such practice exists in the commercial fishing.

Mr. Germa: Well, it wouldn't offend the licence, then, if it happened that the man with the licence owned no equipment? In fact, he could be living down here on Bay St., and operating a licence out of Manitoulin Island and not be near Manitoulin Island for 10 years. Yet he is registered as a commercial fisherman, and taking 60 per cent of the crop. That wouldn't offend his licence, is that what you are saying?

Mr. Brubacher: Yes, I don't know of any who are that widely separated, but I know of

a lady who has been a licence holder for 20 or 25 years. She works in the shore operation of the fishery. I don't think she has been aboard the boat for 20 years, and I think she operates her licence as effectively as if she were aboard the boat. I don't know of any who are as widely separated as has been suggested, but it could occur.

Mr. Stokes: What about Minnesota?

Mr. Brubacher: No.

Mr. Stokes: I am sure you know of—

Mr. Brubacher: No non-resident can hold a commercial fishing licence to take food fish. To be a resident you must have resided in Ontario for seven consecutive months prior to the issue of a licence.

Mr. Stokes: What about Kemp Fisheries? Have they got a dummy company?

Mr. Brubacher: Kemp Fisheries is not licensed. I think perhaps Mr. George Humby is licensed.

Mr. Germa: Mr. Minister, I find it offensive that this can occur.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it may be a point that we should be looking into if there is a ripoff, so to speak. I'm sure you would like that. If somebody is taking a ripoff, and there is no direct connection, I think this is something we should look into.

I certainly agree with you, if there has been no family background in it, or it is not built into that individual's income, as Mr. Brubacher has pointed out. In many instances a family or an individual has lived with that licence. It has been part of their family life. They might depend on that income, and they might have reached an age when they can't actively become involved in the fisheries business itself. It is part of their way of life. It is part of their living. If the two agree, a percentage rate could be extended to them. They could use it and manage the resource. But if there is a blatant abuse of it, then I would like the specifics to which you have referred. I would be glad to check it out.

Mr. Germa: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Spence.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Chairman, in regard to the commercial fishermen, I would like to tell you that last night I happened to run into a commercial fisherman from Lake Erie—and of course, by looking over your booklet here in 1972, you took out

of Lake Erie over \$3 million worth of fish, which is a tremendous amount of fish. So this year this commercial fisherman tells me it is either the high water, or pollution—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am just calling the experts up.

Mr. Spence: He told me that this year the catch has been very disappointing. He said the water was high and the catch was small. The loss in the nets on account of wet weather was high and they were having a difficult year.

Now, this booklet says that in 1972, when more than \$3 million worth of fish were taken out of Lake Erie and the other lakes, which I haven't looked at—is it pollution? Is it the high water? Why is the catch small this year? Have you any idea? Or is it pollution coming back in the Great Lakes to take away the income of these commercial fishermen?

I would say, too, Mr. Minister, that a lot of these commercial fishermen borrowed money from ODC. The ones I have been talking to from Lake Erie have been having difficulty meeting their ODC loan payments this year with the loss, the small catch, and the high water. The fisherman I spoke to last night complained to me about this. I said I would bring the matter to your attention. But I don't see what they can do. If they have signed up for an agreement they must pay so much a year over so many years. But this year they are finding it very difficult to meet their payments. I wondered if you had something to tell me—whether it is pollution, high water, or is it just one of those bad years?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You are referring to the year 1974?

Mr. Spence: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Because in 1973 the total value is about \$7 million.

Mr. Spence: That's right. They were all happy last year. Everybody met you with a smile but this year, it's a different atmosphere entirely.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll ask Mr. Brubacher, who is certainly an expert in that field, to comment.

Mr. Brubacher: I can't refer to this spring's catch. I would suggest that it might be climatic, high water or just the availability of the fish at this time of the year. I think that we'll have to go further into the year

to determine whether the catch is indeed going to drop. Some years the early spring catch is heavier than others. It depends on the number of storms. It depends on the availability of the fish. By the end of May or the end of June we may well find the spring catch has balanced out. I don't think that changing water quality will have affected this spring's catch as compared to last spring's.

Mr. Spence: So it isn't pollution. It might be high water, eh?

Mr. Brubacher: I can't say specifically, but I don't think there has been that rapid a change in water quality to have reduced the catch from a year ago.

Mr. Spence: Right. Now is there anything that can be done about these ODC loans if they can't meet their payments on account of this small catch?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think that is something that could be negotiated with the NODC and the ODC people. Certainly if a loan was given for that specific purpose and through no fault of their own catch is down, I think that is a legitimate request. Maybe the payment on principal or the interest could be waived. It is certainly something that should be looked into. We would be glad to give you assistance and help those who may be in trouble, with information from a biological point of view.

Mr. Spence: I would appreciate that.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Allan.

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, I want to speak about the fishing in Lake Erie, too. And I was wondering if anyone is monitoring the quality of the water in the lake. It is improving, isn't it? Everyone seems to feel that the water in Lake Erie is improving with the hope that, if there is a reasonable improvement, some of the fish that have entirely disappeared, might come back. They wouldn't come back by themselves, probably.

But take the blue pickerel, which was a very excellent fish and a good fish for the fisherman. It was there in great abundance a few years ago, now it has disappeared. They said it was because of pollution in the lake. But as the pollution level in the lake improves—and it will continue to improve, I think—I am wondering if your research men busy themselves with keeping an eye on things with the hope that we might get those blue pickerel back some time.

Mr. Haggerty: They were fished out about 25 years ago. Pollution didn't do that.

Mr. Allan: It isn't 25 years ago.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, sir.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask Mr. Ken Loftus to comment on those points.

Mr. Loftus: I'll have to be careful that I don't try to say too much. There is very good monitoring of the water quality. It hasn't gone on as long as would be nice, but through IJC and various agencies, including the Ministry of the Environment in Ontario, and our own ministry, there is a good watch being taken.

I think that we must be careful not to be over-optimistic about how quickly we will see a response in terms of water quality to the IJC programme expressed through various agencies of better pollution control. That programme, I think, is not going quite as fast as we would have hoped but we are still very optimistic that in time we will see improvement in water quality; in this case, I think we are looking at 10 and 20 years. If we are looking for responses within the fish populations before that sort of time frame, I think we will be disappointed.

I would like to refer very briefly to the yellow perch situation and endorse what Mr. Brubacher said, that the change between last year and this year would not be significant. I think the monitoring of fish stocks on the US and Canadian sides indicates that there have been relatively poor reproduction attempts by perch. Poor year classes have reproduced now on both sides of the lake for three or four years. When that sort of thing happens, the impact on a fishery shows up in a year, sometimes in an abrupt fashion, when you are dealing with a short-lived species. There may be a water quality defect showing itself on perch.

Mr. Allan: The other thing I want to compliment you on—I don't think you do enough of it but I don't know how you do it—is providing these sunfish, bass and rock bass which are put in the ponds for the kids to come and fish. I tell you they have a great time.

Mr. C. E. McIlveen (Oshawa): You can take them out of our lake if you would like.

Mr. Allan: You send them up. Do you net those in some of the other lakes?

Mr. McIlveen: You can come up and net them in mine and take them to Jim.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Can anybody answer that question? Ken?

Mr. Loftus: I think for the most part they are purchased from commercial fishing operations.

Mr. Allan: Is that where they come from? At Waterford they have a nice fishing spot there. It is just filled with youngsters. If you can teach a youngster to be a good fisherman, he will be a good man.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right. I agree with you 100 per cent.

Mr. Haggerty: Words of wisdom.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. McIlveen.

Mr. McIlveen: Mr. Minister, I commented to you briefly about this the other day and I now have a letter of which I would like to read a couple of paragraphs. It is from the South Central Ontario Big Game Association; it is addressed to me.

Sir,

We, the organized members of the South Central Ontario Big Game Association, formed in 1973, for the purpose of big game management in southern Ontario, are at this time requesting your services in an attempt to reopen the annual three-day deer hunting season, shotguns only, in our area of southern Ontario.

This season, formerly opened with township consent, has been denied us now for the past three seasons due in a great part to what we feel are reasons of sentiment and of misunderstanding plus lack of wild-life knowledge within the township councils which, since Jan. 1, 1974, have become regional government councils. But still their previous decisions seemingly are not directed toward the annual big game harvest which is necessary to obtain proper biological information.

Basically, the area in which we are most interested would include part of the township of Pickering, part of East Whitby township and the area extending from Oshawa town line to the border of Trenton, Ontario, formerly known as Northumberland and Durham united counties.

The letter goes on to explain that the deer population in this area is over-growing and the animals are not harvested at all; the harvest is killed by dogs and car accidents and many other ways. The hunters are getting no

benefit out of it. They feel they are paying their hunting taxes and while you in Natural Resources open the season for three days here, the township councils turn around and say that you cannot fire a firearm. It effectively cuts off all hunting in that area, except by bow and arrow.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I might just comment briefly, then I might ask Mr. Irizawa to elaborate further. We are dealing with the municipalities in that particular area. The reason is that they can and many times do pass a by-law controlling the discharge of firearms.

Mr. McIlveen: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I understand in that area there is some objection from the municipal leaders to this request. It may well be that if the herd is of that size that it should be thinned out, then maybe we could give consideration to moving into an archery season, similarly to what we did in the Aylmer area which provided a tremendous amount of recreational opportunity days for the people in that area and, of course, it did not have to qualify for approval by the council. It cut down on the noise and the danger possibility that exist with firearms. Maybe Mr. Irizawa could comment a little further on that.

Mr. Irizawa: I think, Mr. McIlveen, over the years—when I was at Lindsay, for instance—we made a practice to consult the municipal people because of the very thing the minister has mentioned. We were very desirous in certain instances of having a season, but the municipal people objected so strenuously that we saved off and had alternate seasons and what have you.

I know in Cavan township for instance, there's a difference of opinion. You've got two camps. You can't win on this sort of thing because some people, the sportsmen, are very anxious and the municipal people are equally adamant in saying no. Our view there is we might suggest something like an archery season that will keep both sides relatively happy.

Mr. McIlveen: I don't think it will keep this big game association happy. They pay for their hunting licence and most of these people work for General Motors in the plant. I was out to the meeting the other night, and some townships will open up for the three days, but the adjoining township council will not open up. There should be some continuity at the provincial level to say if you abide by the game laws, what's the difference between one township and the next? I think they've got a

very valid point, when in two adjoining townships one's open and the other isn't open.

Mr. Haggerty: Where do they hunt? Is it on private property or is it in government-owned land?

Mr. McIlveen: Some of it's government-owned land and some of it's private property.

Mr. Irizawa: I can certainly take this up with the fish and wildlife staff in the central region. I know the area because you indicated it the other night. Let's see, it's at Pickering east, isn't it?

Mr. McIlveen: Pickering east almost to Trenton is what this South Central Big Game Association encompasses. I'll forward this letter that I have to you.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll be glad to follow up for you.

Mr. McIlveen: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: I didn't think you were ever going to ask me, Mr. Chairman. I want to go back to this letter of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. The point that they raised there is the matter of poor sportsmen. I guess it would be the poachers.

We can do all the talking we want here for about two or three hours, but I still don't think we have actually come up with anything definite. I think that you should perhaps bring in a heavier penalty for such abuses. To go out and seize a person's gun after he's caught poaching or take away his fishing pole or something like that, I don't think it goes far enough. I think perhaps there should be a penalty of about two years that he's not supposed to go hunting again, or to pick up a rifle to go hunting.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We're checking the fines. The maximum is a fine of not more than \$1,000.

Mr. Haggerty: What's the average when they get into the courts?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's usually for the courts to decide.

Mr. Haggerty: Maybe you should have a minimum \$300 fine or something like that, instead of \$1,000 maximum. I think that once an example is set in the courts people will give further consideration to going out and poaching. I know it goes on every day.

I am sure the minister has received a number of letters from the different conserva-

tion branches in the area there. I believe the Port Colborne conservation authority is one that has requested additional officers for enforcement in the Niagara region, and I know the staff at Fonthill is perhaps overworked because there isn't a sufficient number. There used to be a practice before, under the Department of Lands and Forests, that you could go out and deputize a person, of good standing in a community and active in sportsmanship, to go out and be a deputy game warden. They could perhaps enforce some of the regulations too.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We still do that.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, why don't you apply it more throughout the regions? There is very little cost involved and perhaps maybe we could get some more people interested in it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We do it on a selective basis, along with our conservation officers and, of course, with the Ontario Provincial Police, so in many areas where there is a problem we will deputize certain people to move in.

Mr. Haggerty: I think this is one of the requests of the Port Colborne conservation association. They thought that this was one of the ways that would perhaps control poaching in the area. I know it goes on quite severely in the Wainfleet Marsh. It is a crisis in a sense. There are a number of deer being shot there throughout any time of the year.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that we do move around numbers of conservation officers in specific times of the year where there are problems. Up in the Rainy River area, when the deer season opens, we have a real problem with night hunters, so for a specific period of time we will move in from other areas a number of conservation officers who will concentrate on that specific area and move in and move out. Catching a poacher is like catching an eel with a spear.

Mr. Haggerty: Well in Fonthill where your office is you can almost look out right down into that marsh and pick out anybody moving around in the area at night time.

Mr. Maeck: You have to catch them after you spot them.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right. You have to get enough evidence to charge them. That's always a problem too.

Mr. Haggerty: There are people who know that it is going on day after day, and I think if you could get somebody right there at the time a charge could be laid.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Even if we had an officer behind every tree, I doubt if that would still be sufficient to catch all the poachers in the Province of Ontario, because they sometimes devise the most devious means of—

Mr. Haggerty: Maybe you should broaden your terms out a little bit here and perhaps hire additional conservation officers through this.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I know of one specific area where the poachers kept a watch on the conservation officer, like the OPP officer who was assigned to the gold protection—

Mr. Ferrier: The highgraders.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The highgraders, yes. And the telephone call went out across the whole area as to where the conservation officer was tonight and where he was going to be tomorrow night, and the word on the telephone really travels.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, they can do that. I know of cases where they can whistle signals around; they almost tell you where the officer is at the time.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is usually at night too, this is the problem.

Mr. Haggerty: That is true. The other matter concerns your fish hatcheries, where perhaps you will sponsor certain clubs in the area. I am thinking of one in particular around the Fonthill area and I can't just think of the name of it, but there is a group there that usually comes in for trout fishing early in the spring. I think it was just a week or so ago that they had their opening week event there. I just wonder if this is good sportsmanship, to raise fish in the hatchery and then set them in a small, shallow stream—that's all it is—and have a lineup of fishermen for maybe miles along this little stream. When you put the fish out there they don't have much of a chance, do they? I don't think that is true sportsmanship, is it? Then, I suppose, if the fish that are not caught in that week or two or three days get down to the lower end of Twelve-Mile Creek they will never survive in that pollution.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is a renewable resource. I think you have to look at that point of view. Different people put different values on recreation.

Mr. Haggerty: But surely with the two lakes that are there—Lake Erie is loaded with

all kinds of fish, and Lake Ontario—surely you don't have to have that kind of programme?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Many of them are children who go to these places too. It is the thrill of a lifetime to catch a fish, no matter how big or small he is.

Mr. Haggerty: There is all that canal there, and through the waterway there are all kinds of opportunities for youngsters. There are youngsters fishing right now at Point Abino and probably they are catching black bass right now. They don't know too much about what type of fish they are catching.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think we should encourage the young people to get involved in fishing, as Mr. Allan has correctly pointed out. Teach a young fellow how to fish and you'll make a man out of him.

Mr. Haggerty: I'm sure, but he's got to be taught right if he's going to be a good sportsman in fishing later on. A true sportsman, let's put it that way. Perhaps, again, when they are catching fish out of season, maybe you are lacking a programme of education in schools today that used to have that long picture of all the different fishes. You know, about 4 ft long—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We still have that.

Mr. Haggerty: You still have that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have some nice place mats, too, with all the species of the fish caught in the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, this is right. But, I think some of these should perhaps be sent to the schools or made available to the schools so they understand the type of fish they are catching. I know I've seen the youngsters out there at Point Abino with a good string of black bass; I mean, 12 and 14 beautiful fish, and of course they are out of season. But I think it is a lack of education through your department. You should tell these youngsters that they are doing something wrong.

Mr. Chairman: It is now 6 o'clock.

Mr. Haggerty: Is it?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, Mr. Haggerty, it is.

The committee recessed at 6:03 o'clock, p.m.

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Standing Resources
Development Committee

Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

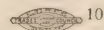
OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Thursday, May 16, 1974

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1974

The committee resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES (continued)

On vote 2203:

Mr. Chairman: I have just been informed by Hansard that they are having some difficulty in hearing certain of the members on the tapes, so they are asking us to speak more directly into the microphones if we could, Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to know if the minister is doing any monitoring for mercury pollution in the waterways and lakes in Ontario.

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): Yes, we are.

Mr. Haggerty: And what are the results?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are doing regular monitoring in basically all the affected areas—Lake St. Clair, the Ottawa River; and up in my own area of northwestern Ontario. I can say to you that the Lake St. Clair area is the one that has shown the only indications of a reduction—I would say minimal reduction.

But it gives us a ray of hope. At least we are heading in the right direction. Rather than increasing, we are decreasing.

There are a number of opinions why this is occurring. I think one of the latest of which I have been told is that silt is building and moving over the mercury that was dumped into the lake. It's not mixing with the water and there's no chemical reaction taking place. But this is only a theory, nothing positive on that.

Mr. Haggerty: You say there is only some slight indication that Lake St. Clair is decreasing?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Decreasing, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: What about the other areas, is there an increase?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There has been no change.

Mr. Haggerty: No change.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No visible change in the other areas at all.

Mr. Haggerty: No change at all?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No change at all.

Mr. Haggerty: What about the industry? Are they still—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Commercial fishing is not going on in the Wabigoon and the English River systems.

Mr. Haggerty: It is not?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, it is not.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you taken—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is no commercial fishing in Lake St. Clair either.

Mr. Haggerty: There isn't? What about sports fishing?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sport fishing is allowed, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Well isn't there just as much a hazard eating fish caught by sportsmen as there would be from commercial fishermen's catches?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I don't think there is; because what we are regulated by on this particular point is that the fish are offered for sale and then they come under the Food and Drug Act. You can't offer for sale a product that is not completely within the standards, but an angler can go out and catch his limit if he so wishes. He can go out and fish for fun if he so wishes.

Mr. Haggerty: But are there any side effects from eating fish that have been contaminated with mercury?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, I think with enough—

Mr. Haggerty: Well there is evidently high enough content of mercury in it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Aside from the information that has been given out, I'm certainly not qualified to—

Mr. Haggerty: Well is there anyone among your staff who would be?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Art, do you want to comment on that?

Mr. A. J. Herridge (Assistant Deputy Minister, Resources and Recreation): Mr. Chairman, as the minister points out, this is a question on which the medical people have been our principal advisers. In the case of the English and Wabigoon River systems, health warnings were issued to the general public that fish containing mercury levels above a stated point should not be eaten more than once a week, and at a lower level more than twice a week. And they should not be eaten by pregnant women or young children. So there was a set of rules, if you will, for the occasional consumption of fish from these waters; and these were published in the affected areas for the guidance of anglers or tourists.

Mr. Haggerty: What about the native people? This is a source of food for them perhaps more than it is for many of us. What about their living standards?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think one might say that some of them are still eating the fish. Many of them are not.

We have tested a number of lakes in the Whitedog and Grassynarrows area to see if they have a lower content of mercury. They are marginal. We have encouraged them to go to these particular areas and directed them there. Outside of that, it's very difficult to control.

But I think that there's a false feeling that these Indians eat fish three times a day, seven days a week; and this is not correct at all. They don't eat fish that often.

Mr. Haggerty: But they depend on it more than the average Ontario citizen does?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I would put it that way; more than the average Ontario citizen. But to say that it's their staple diet I think is wrong.

Mr. Haggerty: No, I wouldn't say that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think that impression was left on a number of occasions during the height of the mercury problem. I don't subscribe to it at all, and you know I have lived in that area all my life. Lac Seul is

a rather large body of water, and for the first time in the last, I think it is three or four years commercial fishing will be allowed in Lac Seul because the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corp., which markets the product, has come up with a plan of what they call blending. They will blend the small fillets with the large fillets so that the end product to the consumer is below the 0.05 parts per million.

Mr. Haggerty: Providing you don't pick a small fillet.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, in the normal family, as Mr. Herridge pointed out, you can eat the fish.

Mr. Haggerty: No; but I suppose if you ate a sufficient amount of it, it would certainly cause some problems.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: As I said earlier, I have lived in that country all my life and being staunch Roman Catholics, of course, we ate fish every Friday in our home. That fish came from Lac Seul and it certainly didn't stunt my growth.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Do you still eat fish on Friday?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I do.

Mr. Chairman: You are still growing, aren't you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Still growing, yes; in a different direction, that's my problem.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you made any laboratory studies on animals in the area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes we have. In addition to this, the federal authorities, with some reluctance and after some pushing, have been actively involved in testing the native people and also testing children. They have regular tests going on now of newborn babies in the Kenora hospital. The information is passed back to the medical officer of health in that particular area. There has been no indication of any health damage to anyone tested to date. I think that is a very important point.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Why do you post then?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We don't post.

Mr. Stokes: You have.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We don't.

Mr. Stokes: Industry and Tourism post.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, they don't.

Mr. Stokes: They have.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: One year, the first year.

Mr. Stokes: "Fish for Fun."

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That was the first round of explanation, but those posters are not being put up now. The Ministry of Health, as Mr. Herridge has pointed out, conducted a very broad programme of advising the public in those specific areas of the dangers that may occur to pregnant women and young children eating regular quantities of fish from these bodies of water.

Mr. Haggerty: That's all I have, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. B. Newman: I wanted to question the minister concerning Lake St. Clair and the mercury pollution. You mentioned there has been a slight decrease in mercury content of fish that have been caught in Lake St. Clair recently. Is that decrease sufficient so that some weights of commercial fish could be sold? I understand the lighter the fish, the lower the content; the heavier the fish—especially once it's over two pounds. But between one and two pounds the mercury content is substantially lower.

I am not a fisherman, so I can't speak with any authority; but is the ministry considering permitting commercial fishing in the lakes, but limiting the catch to a certain weight of fish? You are aware, Mr. Minister, that there are 50 commercial fishermen in the Lake St. Clair area who have been adversely affected. I would assume they are putting pressure on you to ease the ban on commercial fishing in the Lake St. Clair region.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: My information is that all the tests we have conducted in the Lake St. Clair area do show a slight reduction in levels of mercury, but these levels are still too high to allow commercial fishing at any level or any point.

Mr. B. Newman: Not safe! You are also aware, Mr. Minister, that Lawrence Drouillard, the fellow who was the president of the fishermen's association in the Lake St. Clair area, had approached you and got from you the information that the mercury level of the fish was still too high.

But there has been a development, that from my knowledge was encouraged by one branch of government, to set up a \$1.4 million marina at Mitchell's Bay to accommodate sports fishermen for both winter and

summer. Isn't it kind of strange that the minister would allow sports fishermen to go into the area with that high a level of mercury content in the fish?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That particular development, as the member is well aware of, was developed by the Lake St. Clair Parkway Commission. As I pointed out just a few moments ago, there is no restriction on angling for fish in these areas that are affected by mercury contamination, be it in the Wabigoon or the English River system or even in Lake St. Clair. The adage is, the individual is to beware. He may want to go there just for a sport experience. If he just catches his limit, then I would say if he ate it over a specific period of time there is no danger.

Mr. B. Newman: Has the ministry, in cooperation with any of the other ministries, developed a cooking procedure or relayed information concerning treating the fish by means of cooking and double cooking so that the mercury would have no effect or would be eliminated in the process?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, my information is that regardless of any cooking procedure, you will not remove the mercury danger in fish.

Mr. B. Newman: I am reading from an article written by Bob Meyer, who happens to be the outdoors editor of the Windsor Star. This is as recent as Feb. 21 where he says, and I am quoting:

They are now able to process fish that are contaminated with mercury so they are not harmful when eaten. Fish with only slightly more than .05 parts per million of mercury are cooked, double cooked, baked or whatever, and when it is all over the end product is without mercury.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This is news to me but I would certainly bow to the expert, Mr. Brubacher, who may give some comment on this.

Mr. M. J. Brubacher (Director, Commercial Fish and Fur Branch): Mr. Chairman, to the best of our information the cooking process has no effect on the mercury content in the flesh of the fish. But it could be that in the processing, cereals or breeding or other materials are added so that the total product is part fish and part cereal product, in which case the mercury content of the total product might well be below 0.5.

Mr. B. Newman: On the fish itself it might be 0.5.

Mr. Brubacher: On the sliver of fish.

Mr. B. Newman: On the combined, finished product then, it could be substantially less because of the weight factor of the additives. Can the minister foresee a date at which he will be allowing fishing in Lake St. Clair?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I wish I had that information. I have the honour of representing an area that has a serious problem with mercury contamination. There is nothing I would like better than to have that type of information.

Mr. B. Newman: I noticed in the article that the federal analysts say it is going to take 10 of 15 years for it to clear itself. Is the ministry of the opinion that within that period of time it may clear itself or is Lake St. Clair lost to commercial fishing for a fairly long period in the future?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We were encouraged by the reduction in the levels of mercury contamination in the fish caught in Lake St. Clair last year. I wouldn't venture to say how long it will be. We will have to bow to somebody more knowledgeable than I am in this particular field, but from the information reaching me I can't find anybody who will say it will be 10 years or 15 years or 20 years.

Mr. Haggerty: The material is not shifting, is it? The mercury is not shifting and being carried further down? Is the minister saying it is going down into Lake Erie again or something like that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I think the mercury dye content is so heavy that it is going right to the bottom and is being covered over with silt.

Mr. Haggerty: Is the minister sure of that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I am not sure.

Mr. Haggerty: The minister says it is down. If the count is down it must be somewhere.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are surmising. This is one of the theories, as I said earlier. This is one of the theories why the mercury content is down; it is being covered over with silt and there is no chemical reaction taking place. Of course if chemical reaction takes place it gets into the water and it lodges in the flesh of the fish.

Mr. B. Newman: What is the State of Michigan doing as far as that is concerned?

Is it maintaining the same attitude as the Province of Ontario in planning commercial fishing?

An hon. member: They don't have as many bogs to fish in.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do you want to answer that, Mr. Brubacher?

Mr. Brubacher: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Essentially the states bordering on the Great Lakes have the same regulations as Ontario, but most especially the US federal regulations are the same as ours. That means any fish going into inter-state commerce in the United States is under the same regulations as ours. I believe some states have some different regulations which apply within the state only.

Mr. B. Newman: Is there any consideration of lifting the ban on pickerel weighing between 1 lb and 2 lb?

Mr. K. K. Irizawa (Executive Director, Division of Fish and Wildlife): I think, Mr. Newman, as a general policy—and this has happened in other places—as improvement occurs or as a certain size range of fish is found to be clear that size range or poundage, whatever, will be exempted.

Mr. B. Newman: But to date you haven't exempted any of these weight classes?

Mr. Irizawa: Not in Lake St. Clair; but in Lake Erie both yellow pickerel and white bass of a certain size range have now been exempted, haven't they?

Mr. Brubacher: Mr. Chairman, on white bass, for example, last year we found we were able to allow white bass up to 10½ ins. in length to be fished and to enter the trade. The larger ones had to be subjected to testing and sampling before they could be passed. Currently, the ministry is looking at the possibility of that applying in southern Lake Huron. That decision hasn't yet been made. It's not clear yet, sir.

Mr. B. Newman: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Haggerty: I want to follow one more point on mercury pollution. Has the ministry given any direction to the industries using mercury processing to change their procedures of processing? I understand there is a different process which they can use without using mercury.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't follow you on that point.

Mr. Haggerty: They are using mercury, the chemical in the process of manufacturing paper.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That would be under the Ministry of the Environment.

Mr. Haggerty: I know that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: My understanding is, and I was very much involved in it, there is no mercury, or very little, going into the water from the chlor-alkali plants across this province. In fact, in my own area it was stopped about three years ago when a minister's order went out and that was it.

Mr. Haggerty: They're using another process, are they?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In the one in Dryden, the one I'm most familiar with, the company has announced it is going to a new electro process which will completely remove any danger of mercury, because mercury is not used in that type of process.

Mr. Haggerty: What about mercury in the Lake St. Clair-Sarnia area from Dow Chemical?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm not sure, but Dow Chemical, as we heard some time ago, closed its chlor-alkali plant at Thunder Bay and 40 or 50 men were put out of work. That was a mercury plant. It has moved that processing to Sarnia and the Windsor area. I'm not too sure what it is using there.

Mr. Haggerty: Your department is not making any checks on it at all?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We're in constant contact with the Minister of the Environment (Mr. W. Newman) and we're assured there are no further leaks of mercury into the waters from these plants.

Mr. Haggerty: To go back to the answer from the gentleman at the end of the table there, he mentioned that fish of a certain size had to be sampled or have laboratory tests performed on them now. What mercury content was found in those fish on which those tests were performed?

Mr. Brubacher: Mr. Chairman, the actual testing to see whether the fish is acceptable on the market is generally carried out by the fisheries branch of the federal Department of the Environment, and the levels were sufficiently above 0.5 that the fish could not generally go into the market.

They test them in lots, and if any lot is acceptable that is passed for market. Each

lot of fish above that size has to be held until testing clears it, and most of them are rejected.

Mr. Haggerty: Most of them are rejected.

Mr. Brubacher: Yes, sir.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, we are using 0.05 or 0.5—now which is the correct?

Mr. Irizawa: Half a point—0.5.

Mr. B. Newman: It is 0.5—because the article I am reading throughout has .05.

Mr. Irizawa: It is 0.5.

Mr. L. Maeck (Parry Sound): No wonder they can take it out of us.

Mr. B. Newman: Well if they are going down to 0.5, .05 is really a small amount of mercury.

Mr. Maeck: It is; that's the idea.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, but it tells you how dangerous it is; that's the point of it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That figure is different for different jurisdictions. It is interesting to note, and I think I made this statement some time ago, that Japan—they may have one now, but the last time I checked they did not have a tolerance level for mercury. In fact France and Japan have made it known they will buy mercury-contaminated fish from us up to a certain level, higher than that at which we can sell it on the Canadian market.

Mr. Stokes: Just continuing along with that for a moment—I hadn't intended spending any time on it. Since most of the impositions have been in effect for up to three years now, and since you have assured us that the monitoring is on a continuing basis, wouldn't it be advisable to start publishing the results of your monitoring so that in areas where it is possible now to lift the ban, people could be made aware of this? Because there are some areas where this problem is serious because of industrial pollution, while in areas such as you and I are concerned about it is natural leaching; it has nothing to do with any industrial activity.

If you are going for one particular species of fish rather than another, it is quite possible that we may be unduly alarming the people. If you are getting the bottom feeders, obviously you are going to have to watch them much more closely than other species. When the scare first raised its ugly head I know there was a prohibition on selling lake trout

from Lake Superior commercially; and a lot of them were going bad till a system was set up whereby you could test these fish to see whether they were all right for the continental and the international markets, more the continental market.

It seems to me that now when people are coming to you—particularly in the north where native people rely on fish as a commercial undertaking—you are still denying the right to certain native fishermen who traditionally make their living in this way. You are still saying to them: "Yes, we will give you a licence for 2,000 yards of gill net, but you will be restricted to whitefish only. The pickerel you can't market, so don't catch them."

I think if it is going to be a realistic prohibition you have got to have a fairly regular plan of monitoring. And if there is any change, make these people aware of it. The fish are still there, and if it can be a commercially viable operation our native people should know about it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think I made this point very clear in the last couple of years, that we would monitor and we would co-operate 100 per cent. We provide the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Health with all the information. After some discussion and some consultation with them it was felt they are the experts to be notifying the general public as to what the levels are, and they have accepted that responsibility. They are notifying people. I think they've sent out an individual letter to every one of the homeowners living adjacent to those watersheds, giving them this information. Certainly if there is any change they would be notified.

Mr. Stokes: I had a chap from Armstrong who traditionally fished up in Short Lake, which is a part of the Ogoki reservoir. He makes application every year and he gets the same answer every year. If there is any change they should know about it. They should say when he makes applications: "No, you are restricted to 2,000 yards of gill net and you will be allowed only to fish for whitefish. As a result of our monitoring, it was one part per million in 1971 and it is now"—whatever it is. Then he has a reason and he doesn't come hollering to me about it and say: "What are those guys doing? Here they've just said it's condemned and there is no way that you can fish that species." If I could take some figures back or if you could send them something, all right he knows that you are watching it on a con-

tinuing basis and you are not just sloughing him off.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We could provide that information—no problem at all. But I think there is one problem that you may run into. The average layman is not aware of those tolerance figures. It is the same as the tests that were taken on the individual Indians, the blood tests on what the level of mercury was, what the level of mercury was in their urine and this type of thing. You send that to an average layman and he doesn't know what it is. But you send it to his family doctor; then he interprets that to the individual, and this is what we have been doing.

If you think it will help, we would be glad to do it.

Mr. Stokes: I'm talking about a fellow whose livelihood has been taken away.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have the information in booklet form as to what the levels are. If there is any change we will certainly tell him.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, well if you'll provide it to me. I'd be able to answer a lot of these questions.

I want to get into your fish stocking programme. You have mentioned that you are going to increase your hatchery capacity at Dorion. I want to focus in on the magnitude of the problem in what was traditionally one of the best fisheries in all of Ontario. I refer back again to Lake Nipigon, where in 1919 and 1920 the annual harvest in lake trout was in excess of 600,000 pounds a year. In 1973 it was down to 22,000 pounds. Of a total harvest in 1973 of all species caught in Lake Nipigon, there were 206,000 pounds harvested for an approximate value of \$50,400.

Over 50 per cent of that was in whitefish which a good many people up there refer to as, not a coarse fish, but certainly not the prime species that we are used to, such as the pickerel and the trout. As a result of the activities of 13 licensees for commercial fishing, there were 206,000 pounds caught with a value of just over \$50,000. Three licences were not fished and only eight of those licences reported more than \$1,000 worth of fish. That would mean that if you had 10 of the 13 commercial fishermen active, and only eight of the 10 showed a production of more than \$1,000, you can see how greatly the fishery as a commercial undertaking has depreciated over the years.

You have had a team of biologists on that lake for over five years now and we would have hoped that by now you would have gathered sufficient information to say that the spawning beds are covered over and this is preventing natural reproduction; or because of the fluctuations in the water level the fish aren't getting an opportunity to spawn and to hatch, as would be the case under normal conditions. As a result of reaching those conclusions, the only other alternative is to give nature a helping hand. And, of course, the only way you are going to give nature a helping hand is to either close the fishery, commercially and to the angler, and give it a rest; and try that at the expense of a lot of criticism, because you are taking the economic opportunity away from the commercial fisherman and you are taking a lot of enjoyment away from the sports fisherman; or you can say: "All right, even though we haven't restocked the lake in 20 years because we always felt it was capable of replenishing itself on a sustained yield basis, that hasn't happened either." So it seems to me, with my very limited knowledge of the thing, that the only alternative is to restock it.

You didn't restock it last year because you had an infection in the planting stock that you were going to use. I don't know whether this was lost to you, but you had an infection in some of your hatchery stock and just couldn't use it. It may have endangered the entire lake had you used it, the biologists tell me. However, I understand you are coming to grips with that problem.

I think, Mr. Minister, you are going to have to ask yourself a pretty basic and fundamental question. You showed this excellent booklet here, and it is a fine document, anybody looking through it would say: "I wish I was on the north shore of Lake Superior where they caught a 310 lb sturgeon."

Mr. Haggerty: That was in 1922.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, in 1922.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Check the minnow on the back page.

Mr. Stokes: That's recent.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: On the back page.

Mr. Stokes: I see several photographs here of Macdiarmid and to look at it—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Page 64; there is a northwestern Ontario minnow there.

Mr. Haggerty: They weigh six pounds.

Mr. Stokes: It is like that papier mâché muskie you brought in to Kenora.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): How is it you didn't get your picture in there?

Mr. Stokes: There are several pictures in here that would lead one to believe that the fishery on Lake Superior is thriving and was never better, and the same thing is happening on Lake Nipigon. Witness this beehive of activity around Macdiarmid.

I want to assure everybody that looks over this book that it is an excellent book, but it is a misrepresentation of the facts as they are today. If you are giving us a history of what went on before, fine and dandy. It is nice for the school kids to say, well, wasn't it nice 20 or 30 years ago! I can assure you that this just isn't happening today. There has been a tremendous decline in the Lake Superior commercial fishery, courtesy of the lamprey. It is coming back. I had some statistics that I made available to biologists because I know they're interested in gathering that kind of information. I know that if you keep on with your lamprey-cide programme, you're on a fair way to keeping it under control. But if you relax just for a moment, boy, you're going to get it in the neck.

But you're doing nothing with regard to the rehabilitation of the fishery on Lake Nipigon. Now on page 51 of this booklet there's a beautiful little picture of Macdiarmid, a tranquil little harbour. It is a beautiful setting, but I want to assure you that if you think that 10 commercial fishermen with all their gear and all of their expenses can live on a combined and total income of approximately \$50,000, you're just deluding yourselves.

We're going to have to come clean with these people and say: "No, we're going to have to provide an alternative for you people. We'll undertake a massive rehabilitation of the lake. We'll employ you and your gear to help us achieve this worthy objective; but let's give the fishery a rest."

Now, the thing is, you're going to have to do some good salesmanship in order to get them around to this way of thinking. But you're just deluding yourselves and you're deluding the commercial fishermen, if you're trying to convince them just around the bend is Nirvana or whatever they want to call it. It's just not going to happen by itself.

I'm not going to go on at great length. I've got all kinds of statistics here to prove

my case. A good many of the statistics came from your ministry. A lot of them came from the commercial fishermen themselves. I think if you're going to bring the thing back and keep it in a proper balance, you're going to have to undertake a fairly realistic programme of harvesting the coarse fish so they don't eventually take over the lake before the prime species have had an opportunity to come back, either by way of you helping them along, by a restocking programme or by limiting the season or the catch in order to allow them to catch up. It won't happen by itself.

You've had in excess of five years of continuous and ongoing biological survey. I said last year that it is an imprecise science, but I don't think you can afford to sit idly by and do nothing. I think you have to try something. The obvious thing is to try to rehabilitate the lake to the greatest extent possible, even if you have to put in new spawning beds.

I have some information here that I made available to your biologists, courtesy of the federal Department of Fisheries. It is about Environment Canada Fisheries and Marine from British Columbia where they have undertaken a programme of spawning channels for salmon. I think you could do the same thing for trout. I don't know whether you could do the same thing for pickerel, but I suspect you can. But I don't think you should sit idly by and do nothing.

You've got an excellent biologist there, Mr. Townes. I know he's sincere. I know he's dedicated. But I don't think we have sufficient lead time that we can study the lake for another five years while the world of several people comes tumbling down around their ears.

You have several options open to you. As I say, I'm not a professional. I'm just an average, ordinary layman trying to convince you people that you should be doing something. It may be that it should be a combination of things.

I'm not going to sit here preaching a sermon to you. I'm not well enough informed, this is the work for experts. But I don't think experts should sit on their—

Mr. Haggerty: Good intentions.

Mr. J. K. Reynolds (Deputy Minister): Laurels—past performance.

Mr. Stokes: Well, I was going to say their PhDs. But I think that at some point in time

you here say: "Okay, let's try something;" instead of just studying.

I have several other things that I want to bring up under this vote, Mr. Chairman, but I don't want to go on at any great length on this. If the minister has nothing to say, I will go on to something else.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, I certainly do have something to say. I would never let this opportunity pass. Let me first say that we in the Ministry of Natural Resources never relax. Our work is on going. We have, as you have correctly pointed out, excellent staff, who are constantly working on this problem and trying to come to grips with it. It certainly is not an easy one. There are, as you know, a large number of influencing factors.

Certainly we see a decline in the commercial fishing industry in the Lake Nipigon area, but I have to point out to you that this is general right across northwestern Ontario. In fact, we see it in the Treaty No. 9 area, the area for which I have records in front of me. In 1969 about a million lbs were caught in the Treaty No. 9 area; in 1972 it went down to about 600,000 lbs; and in 1973 there was a substantial increase, which I think was due in large part to our emphasis—

Mr. Stokes: The subsidy.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, by having our commercial fishermen, as you have asked, harvest more of our coarse fish. We have seen them respond to the freight subsidy programme that we introduced about a year ago; and it will be continued for another year. I think it is fair to say that—

Mr. Stokes: But you are talking about where there are fish, and it is just a question of letting them be competitive.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am getting to that point. They have responded very well and are catching onto the programme; I think we will see an acceleration again this year. I think one has to accept the fact that the commercial fishing industry in northwestern Ontario is a tough business. The younger people are not getting involved; their fathers were involved—

Mr. Stokes: Why would they?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I know. There are a number of reasons, one of them being the price. We had the Fish Marketing Corp. come in, and that really discouraged a lot of those people. Then we had the mercury problem. They also found employment in

other places, because they didn't really appreciate this seasonal type of employment. They were better off cutting pulpwood, and getting a bigger return because of the price.

My colleague in the Legislature often says that the farmer or the producer doesn't get a fair return. I think it is fair to say that about commercial fishermen. They were not getting a fair return. The marketing board was set up to do just that. It failed miserably in the first two or three years of operation. It's coming back now under new management, and hopefully it will be the answer. I have a personal feeling, a real gut feeling that given the opportunity to put their own house in order, they can meet the need by providing a decent price.

Mr. Stokes: You and I are at one on that. I don't quarrel with you at all. I have said the same thing on many occasions myself. I have no quarrel with whatever is being done jointly, federally and provincially, to create markets, or with you people and your subsidy to assist them in harvesting the coarse fish and making it a viable undertaking.

I applaud the moves you have made. But that's really not what I'm saying. What I'm saying is, What are you going to do to rehabilitate fisheries where nothing is going to take place and which are going to continue to deteriorate until you provide a habitat, water levels or help them by restocking? These are the kinds of things that I want to do.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But I don't think the problem is totally related to the points you referred to. There is more to it than that. As I pointed out, there are a number of factors. It is like the small farm, which we see deteriorating and closing up because it is not economically viable. Certainly we are concerned, and this year alone we will be spending another \$30,000 on further biological studies of the Ogoki and Nipigon Lake areas. We are continuing our studies.

Mr. Stokes: We don't need studies. We know what the problem is.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We don't have the answers. That's the problem.

Mr. Stokes: All right. But if you feel that you have got to study it for another five years, heaven forbid, do some restocking in the meantime.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm going to ask our expert in this field, Mr. Ken Loftus, who is very knowledgeable. But the commercial

fishing industry is not an easy one to deal with because of these extenuating factors and these side effects we are experiencing in northwestern and northern Ontario.

The young people are not interested. The price problem—

Mr. Stokes: You build a fish processing plant on the east shore of Lake Nipigon to make good use of a product that is high in protein value, that's quite acceptable on the market today—fish sticks. I could eat them twice a week myself, and you could cater to the gefüllte fish market in New York. You can walk down to any delicatessen in Metropolitan Toronto and buy oval-shaped cans of so-called exotic food that is caught in the North Sea and you pay anywhere from \$1.50 to \$2 a can for it. Walk down Yonge St. and into a delicatessen and see what they've got on the shelves.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I know, it's very easy—

Mr. Stokes: And we're throwing them over the side of boats and up into the bush out of Lake Nipigon for want of markets.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's very easy to make a statement like that. But you know and I know the problems of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corp. trying to do that very thing. You don't go into one little lake and set up an establishment of that size. It's impossible. It has to be a viable operation. Now because of our freight subsidy programme bringing out the coarse fish, the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corp. has jumped on the bandwagon. Now they see an end to this. Now they are getting into the act. It's all based on economics.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, but I know of the studies that were done by Wren on behalf of the Ontario Research Foundation, and another by Rodgers; it was all based on four cents a pound for coarse fish for fertilizer and for pet food. We are not talking about that. We are talking about fish sticks that will sell anywhere from 60 to 80 cents on the market. We think we can get a piece of the action.

If you want to provide some viability, maintain a balance or get it back to a balance by utilizing the coarse fish for a very worthy cause; maybe those are the things you could be doing.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But here we have a plant in Winnipeg and they have to have the supply of coarse fish from all over western Canada and northwest Ontario to make

it viable. I really can't see a small plant on one little lake being a viable operation.

Mr. Stokes: Wait a minute! Lake Nipigon isn't a small lake. I don't have to show you the map, you know what Lake Nipigon is.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I know what it is.

Mr. Stokes: There are literally hundreds of other lakes. Long Lac is 90 miles long; and Lake Kenogamisis at Geraldton; there is Onaman Lake; there is Northwind Lake. There are any number of lakes that have a good deal of coarse fish in them. If it is viable to ship coarse fish from Macdiarmid all the way to the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corp. in Winnipeg, it ought to be viable to ship them 50 or 100 miles in northern Ontario in order to get the volumes that are required to effect the economy of scale you need.

Sure it's going to take co-ordination, but that's what we hire people to do. I'm not saying that your ministry is wholly and solely responsible. But wherever there is an opportunity I think you should be insisting that your colleagues explore the possibilities of getting into something like this.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Ken, would you comment on the Nipigon situation?

Mr. K. H. Loftus (Director, Sport Fisheries Branch): I have just had an opportunity to read the report that was put together by Townes. I think it is very good information. It traces a history of fish stocks that is not a very happy one. I think at present there is no question but that the lake is producing fewer pounds of fish than is appropriate for that lake. We may have, in the past, experienced over-exploitation on specific stocks, such as the trout and the whitefish. That exploitation may still be at a level that precludes their recovery.

On the other hand, I think the other two factors that have to be called into consideration are fluctuations in water levels and the impact of siltation, in the upper end at least. I think that siltation has been such that the wall-eyes in that area are no longer viable and I understand that they have been replaced by a sauger population. But these conclusions are not supported by the data that we have in hand, I regret to say. It is hard data to come by and I have no wish to imply that Townes has done anything but an excellent job.

I think we do have a substantial job of rehabilitation to do, involving at least those

three factors, to get Lake Nipigon back into something close to natural production.

Mr. Stokes: Well, you have heard your expert say there is a significant job to be done. There are three areas he mentioned that are problem areas. Can we have an undertaking that the minister will look not only at gathering further data as to the magnitude of the problem—I think it is fair to say that we know enough about the problems that we can sit down and start looking for solutions to them—will you undertake to—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have that kind of information, certainly we will take a more positive look at it.

Mr. Stokes: All right, will you undertake, then, to sit down with Hydro and with us—I am talking about the people who are directly affected around Lake Nipigon—to see if you can't ameliorate the effects of excessive fluctuations, you know highs to lows, in keeping with their ability to generate power? Will you see ways in which you can minimize the siltation, particularly in the north end as Mr. Loftus has mentioned, particularly in Ombabika Bay? Will you undertake to see whether there is some way in which you might be able to uncover traditional spawning beds for both pickerel and trout?

There must be millions of tons of bark there. I don't know whether it could be combed or stirred up, or if you could come up with some kind of machine that might do that. All I am saying is I don't think we can afford to do nothing. Out in British Columbia they are building spawning beds for salmon. I don't know whether it is possible to do it with trout and pickerel, but at least we should be looking at it because it is working quite successfully.

I gave statistics to your biologist on the excellent job the federal Department of the Environment, particularly their fisheries people, are doing out in British Columbia through their fisheries and marine branch. I think you could be embarking on a programme like this with the assistance of people who have been put on welfare rolls as a result of this problem.

I am not saying you should work miracles, I understand how complex the problem is. All I am saying to you is, for heaven's sake let's do something.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll buy that, really. You know we have been gathering informa-

tion and certainly if we have something we can put a handle on, then we should be talking to Hydro and we should be talking to other people to bring it back as a viable industry in that area. I'll buy that.

Mr. Stokes: Okay. I won't mention it again. Mr. Joe Leslie—does that name ring a bell?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It sure does; he writes me every week.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, well he writes to me; he even quotes me on occasion.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Me too.

Mr. Stokes: "Manifesto of the 7,000," he calls it. He says he has 7,000 signatures on a petition imploring your ministry to do something about the sensible size limits of pickerel, bass, lake trout, pike and muskie.

Now I am not going to bore you, and I am not going to bore the committee with all of the details. This guy is very sincere. He thinks he has got hold of something. It's something that is being done in other jurisdictions, particularly Pennsylvania. I want to hear the rationale behind the present approach that you are taking.

My colleague said: "Why don't you restock pickerel and give them a helping hand the way you do with other species?" I appreciate what the biologist said, because they told me that five years ago. They are very prolific in their ability to lay eggs. One of them can do as much as a good-sized hatchery, I understand, all things being equal. I won't pursue that.

But you are saying that if you do that and unless you continue to feed them and get them out, they are very carnivorous and it becomes counter-productive. There is very little danger of pickerel becoming over-populated because they will control that themselves.

One of the experts is in this room tonight. I won't mention his name. I just want to quote one paragraph from the letter: "But we do not agree that in many areas walleye growth rates are so slow, due to over-population, that few fish could ever be legally taken if size limits were brought back."

So there is a direct contradiction, in my terms anyway. There is no danger of them being over-populated because they do control themselves. If there isn't sufficient food of other species for them, they will eat one another and it is the survival of the fittest. But if you allow them to be taken at much

lower than say 15 inches, or whenever they mature to the extent they are able to reproduce, everything you are doing is counter-productive.

Now as I say again, I am not a biologist and I don't want to pursue this. I just want to find out from your biologist if you have had any change in your thinking. Why don't you try it for a couple of years and if it doesn't succeed, you are able to say to these people: "Okay, I told you so," and we will have to admit we are wrong.

All I want is a reaction from you. I am not going to pursue that any further.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'd like Mr. Loftus to respond to that inquiry. He is certainly an expert in that field. Like yourself, I am not a biologist, so I will give way to the experts.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): That's anybody carrying a brief case 50 miles away from home.

Mr. Loftus: Some biologists are pretty good at laying eggs too.

There is a substantial variation between lakes in the growth rate of walleyes. If one were to impose a size limit on walleyes across the province you would under-harvest in some places very seriously and you would impose an unwarranted restriction on perfectly good harvest. This would have economic and recreational backlashes.

Mr. Stokes: In the same lake?

Mr. Loftus: No. Well, you do get separate populations within lakes and they can have different growth rates, but not of the magnitude I am talking about between lakes.

Mr. Stokes: All I am saying is, why don't you try it in Lake Nipissing for a couple of years, or whatever length of time it takes. If it doesn't work say: "All right, we have been right and you were wrong."

Mr. Loftus: The specific size limit which Mr. Leslie is suggesting for Lake Nipissing we think would be inappropriate. If there is over-exploitation there, and it's not likely that there is, we think the proper way to go is to reduce the season at one end or the other in such a way that you will cut down on the total harvest. I think the thing that Mr. Leslie really wants is a continued pickerel population. Our minister caused to be established a committee with a cross-section of people from interested groups around Lake Nipissing. They have been sitting and talking together and this is the kind of answer they also came up with. So

I think this is the direction in which we should go because we think it will work.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, but aren't you, in effect, just sampling public opinion, rather than coming up with something you could backup scientifically?

Mr. Loftus: The thing that we can backup—

Mr. Stokes: You can get all the advisory committees in the world to say that this is how we think we should be doing; but they are going to act on the basis of scientific knowledge they are going to get it from people like you. If you know what the facts, go ahead and do it. You don't need an advisory committee to endorse what you know you should be doing all along.

Mr. Loftus: It is nice to have the people's approval, and we are satisfied that by shortening the seasons we will reduce the overall harvest to the extent necessary to maintain the walleye population.

Mr. Stokes: Okay, if you are going to accomplish the same objective as Mr. Leslie would like to see, I won't argue I am not going to pursue it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would just like to comment briefly on the setting up of that particular committee. I think the feeling in North Bay was that we were gathering up information over a long period of time, and that while we had the information and were making decisions on that information, we were not sharing it with the people in the general area. That is, at least, my opinion. If the experts could explain—and after all they are experts, that is their livelihood really—that was the thrust behind it, to get them involved, to get them behind our reasons for taking certain actions and doing certain things.

Mr. Stokes: Yes. Okay fine. With regard to your restocking, and Mr. Loftus alluded to the inadvisability, if that is a word, of stocking many inland lakes with these exotic types of fish, such as the coho, the chinook or the king, and saying because they too are voracious, you do so at the expense of the other fish that are indigenous to a particular lake.

But that doesn't hold true in the Great Lakes where you have already attempted the stocking of coho in two areas along the north shore of Lake Superior. Whether that will ever bear fruit we are not yet prepared to say. But you are doing it in the Credit River, about 20,000 every second week over a period of time and earlier this spring. Hope-

fully this project will start to bear fruit. But I am not even going to quote at any great length. I hate to quote at all the Ontario Fisherman and Hunter, for an obvious reason. I suppose you have a copy of the questionnaire—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Which I did not answer.

Mr. Stokes: —that was tantamount to blackmail. I answered, it, but in my own terms, rather than giving them just straight "yes" or "no" answers as they wanted. I used marginal notes to explain why I said "yes," or why I said "no," to a particular question. But when they came out with the results of the survey, of course they didn't publish marginal notes. I think it was tantamount to blackmail.

I just want to read one article from this publication, which says, and I am not going to go to great length because I did it last year. I think I proved that what they were doing in Lake Michigan was of some significance. It says:

Thank you, Michigan. Before long we will be back on the streams enjoying our favourite pastime. Rainbow trout fishing has captured the imagination of thousands of Ontario residents. On April 27 the season opens in Lake Huron and Georgian Bay, where the bulk of Ontario rainbow anglers have spent so many of their leisure hours. What kind of fishery do we have in the area along Georgian Bay and Lake Huron? As one conservationist told me last spring, the traditional spawning streams get so crammed with fish that many seek out previously unused waterways. Even drainage ditches along the Lake Huron shore get runs of rainbow on some nights.

How can this be explained? The Province of Ontario has virtually neglected the rainbow trout as a sports fish in the Great Lakes. During 1972 the Ministry of Natural Resources stocked only 23,000 rainbow in Huron, Superior and Georgian Bay. During the same period, Michigan Department of Natural Resources was busy stocking hundreds of thousands of rainbow, steelhead, smoltes.

Ontario ministry spokesmen are always quick to point out that they realize how little they are doing. They wish they could do more, but their hands are tied. The total budget for the Ministry of Natural Resources across the whole province is only \$10 million. [Well it is close to \$12 million now.] How do we expect them to be able to come up with a worthwhile fish-stocking programme out of such a small budget?

They went on to discuss the other questionnaire that I spoke of a little bit earlier.

So I think it is fair to say that Michigan is doing much more. I don't know what their budgets are and I don't know what the cost-benefits analysis has been; but I do think they are approaching the problem much more vigorously.

You tried the splake; it hasn't worked all that well. You tried kokanee; that hasn't worked well. There are certain areas where you can catch kokanee in Lake Huron, if you have a \$10,000 boat and you can get out into deep water and troll for them. But I think we should be spending our money where it is going to provide the greatest return for the greatest number of people who can go out in a little skiff, or just stand at the mouth of a stream with reasonable hopes and expectations of catching a fish.

How much are you going to do this year on your restocking programme in excess of what you've done in other years? Just what direction are you going? Don't you think you should be allocating more funds for this, especially where the pressure is becoming so much greater, in southern Ontario where the majority of the people are?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have our two hatcheries at Lennox coming on stream; and the other one, Dorion substation, coming on stream; that is approved.

Mr. Loftus is on the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission. I think you are interested in the Great Lakes principally? Yes. Maybe Mr. Loftus can comment on the exotic species to which you referred at some earlier point.

Mr. Stokes: Specifically in the Great Lakes. You've already made your point for the inland waters.

Mr. Loftus: The stocking programme for Ontario, relative to splake, has been confined to Lake Huron. It is now about four years old and we are perhaps one year away from our initial target of one million yearlings per year. We'll be perhaps one year behind our planned programme in that respect.

We are very happy with the results of this programme. It is not old enough yet to produce a lot of fishing, but it is producing spawners over former lake trout grounds and this is the most we could have hoped for.

Our stocking programme with respect to kokanee went through two complete life cycles. Again, here we were looking for something that would reproduce on its own. Had we wanted to produce fish to the creel with-

out worrying about natural reproduction over the long term, we would have planted large fish rather than eyed eggs. We went the route we did in order to achieve natural reproduction and a self-supporting population if this was possible.

We've not given up on this. We are not planting any more. They are on their own. They have survived. They have reproduced. I think they have now reproduced through three generations, so apparently there is some adaptation and they may catch on.

Insofar as coho or chinook are concerned in Ontario, you are aware of the experimental plantings that were made on the north shore of Lake Superior. I think those did not produce very spectacular returns and I think that was not entirely unexpected; because the results by Michigan and the other states when such plantings were made in Superior were also much less spectacular than they were in Lake Michigan.

We have continued to plant lots of coho and chinook in part of Lake Ontario. Our plantings of these are in that part of the lake where we do not expect natural reproduction is possible in any case. We don't expect these species to reproduce themselves. The attempt here is to provide fishing on an interim basis in much the same way as they do in Michigan.

I would like to say one word about the rainbow stocking programme, if I may. Again, if you plant large numbers of these fish of a large size, you produce some immediate returns which are very attractive. From our point of view, on our side we have had for a number of years a very successful rainbow trout population which, indeed, has been growing through the years. We have considered our populations were very healthy; and I must say that was an exotic which was successful. It has adapted and has learned to reproduce on its own very well. It needs very little stocking support.

We are a little bit concerned that some of the fish of unknown genetic origin from the US side, having been planted, are turning up in our streams and are mixing with our stocks. I think this is probably bad news; I don't know.

Mr. Stokes: Have you expressed this concern to the people with whom you are consulting or trying to co-ordinate your fishery programme?

Mr. Loftus: Yes sir, we have; and I think perhaps we will have to repeat it.

Mr. Stokes: Okay. On the lamprey control thing under the federal department, do you

have an assurance from them they are going to keep on top of the thing? They relaxed a little bit two or three years ago and I am told by fishermen that was a mistake. Are you going to prevail upon them on to this thing and make sure they don't allow the lamprey to take over again?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I can give you that assurance.

Mr. Stokes: Okay. I have several unrelated things but before I leave that. Is it not possible to plant some of these exotic fish in the Great Lakes where there are high populations of smelts? Might they react in the same way as the coho are doing with the alewife in Lake Michigan?

Mr. Loftus: I think the answer is yes; but in the case of Lake Huron, for example, we expect the smelt will be a prime food source for the splake as well.

Mr. Stokes: But you don't have any splake in Lake Superior, do you?

Mr. Loftus: No, we are trying to rehabilitate with lake trout in Lake Superior.

Mr. Stokes: I see. Okay. That makes it fine.

You had, I think, an unfortunate situation in Rondeau Park when you felt it was advisable to go in and thin out the deer population. I suppose biologically that makes sense and nobody will criticize you for that—well some people will criticize you, but I don't think the criticisms are well-founded. But I think the minister should get a slap in the ear with a wet noodle if my information is correct.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Thanks a lot.

Mr. Stokes: Why in hell did you let a bunch of teddy bears go in there and try to thin out the deer with the use of tranquilizer guns? That had to be a very unfortunate situation. I am not going to quote the article but, really, you have some pretty competent people in the department who could do that. I think maybe you should have left it up to them, shouldn't you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's fair to say that everybody thinks he is an expert, and in this case I think we made the experts back down.

We have the experts within our ministry. It is a regular undertaking to thin out the deer population in Rondeau Park. We had X number of deer. We do periodic checks and it was felt we had to bring them down to a

certain level in view of the acreage and the habitat that were available to them.

We were prepared to move in, as we have done over the past number of years. The hue and cry went out that we were going in there slaughtering all these deer and that we were inhumane. I took it upon myself, after some consultation with the staff, to let them have a try. We can't convince them any other way. We decided to let them go in and see if their method is correct, if their method is better than the method we use and if it would accomplish the same end.

As you know and as I know, it failed. It failed miserably, really it did. Let's hope that's the end of that kind of thing. I think if we had stood up and argued with them and fought with them, we wouldn't have succeeded. The publicity would have been bad for the area; it would have been an ongoing thing. We just said, go in there and try it, and now they have reverted back to the old system. I think we proved our point, really.

Mr. Stokes: Amen!

Turning to hides for native people, I just got a letter from Wunnummin Lake within the past week indicating they couldn't accept orders. I had given the name of someone who is expert in leather work to a friend, and I said, if you write to this lady I am sure she can fill all your needs. She couldn't because she was finding it extremely difficult to get hides.

I don't know whether this is a case where you are not getting the co-operation from the sportsmen, who are not turning in hides in the numbers that are required, or whether there is a breakdown in communications. I am sure if we are harvesting 14,000 moose a season in the province, as you mention, if we really pursued this as vigorously as we might there would be ample supplies of hides that we could ship to the tannery and assist native people in a cash crop by way of a handicraft that is becoming more popular all the time and is becoming better known. I don't think the programme should fail for the want of hides if it is possible to avoid it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am pleased you brought this up, because that is one of our programmes we are very proud of. As you are aware, we advertise extensively during the hunting season, asking the hunters who are successful to bring their hides into any district office. We take those, give them proper care and turn them over to the Indian

affairs branch. They get them tanned and allocate them to the specific areas.

Last year, if I am correct, there were well over 4,000 skins. It was one of our best years last year. In turn, we always give the individual who sends in a hide a little token of appreciation. I can say that we get some very warm and pleasing letters from people who were part of this programme, from both the donor and the receiver.

Mr. Stokes: I hope you will follow it up. I can give you the name. It was a Mrs. Rose Bachelor at Wunnummin Lake who does excellent work. She wrote to somebody in the gallery who had sent up and ordered several pairs of moccasins. She couldn't fill the order because she didn't get the hides.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am surprised, unless they ran out at the Indian affairs branch.

Mr. Stokes: Yes. Well, just check and see if there is any way that the whole thing could be improved.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The members will be interested to know that Boston is leading 2-1.

Mr. Stokes: By 2-1, good.

There are two other small unrelated items. It is something that occurred to me as a result of remarks made by the member for Lanark, and I am not going to repeat anything he said. What about your predator control? Why isn't it working?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: As I pointed out to a number of members who have come in to see me about this particular programme, we do have problems controlling wolves in the Province of Ontario, but we are not alone. The Province of Manitoba is having problems, too. In fact, in the Province of Alberta the farmers took things into their own hands.

In the United States things are bad because, the experts tell me, they are at the height of the cyclical turn of events and the wolves are at their peak at this point in time. It is so bad in the United States that the sheep farmers down there have come out with a slogan "Eat lamb, 10,000 wolves can't be wrong." That's how bad it is down there.

We are working on it. We've got about 50 officers who are very well trained in the predator control programme. It's not easy to trap or to shoot a wolf. They are the most canny, the most difficult animals to trap and to control.

Also, in the farm areas we assist the farmer in protecting his herd. We will provide him with traps. We'll show him how to set the traps. So we have this as an ongoing programme and we are intensifying that programme because there is pressure, I will have to admit, from a number of parts of the province where the problem is severest. The Rainy River area in my own area is giving us difficulty—and in the south-eastern part of the province.

Mr. Stokes: Okay. Two final—

Mr. Ferrier: Part of the problem is also with dogs too, isn't it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's one of the problems.

Mr. Ferrier: I remember clippings I've read that dogs have been let run loose and they've killed a lot of sheep too.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right. And, of course, it's always a wolf—or hybrids in this part of the area, coyotes, and this type of thing.

Mr. Stokes: Okay. Two final things. Mr. Brubacher's domain here. How are you progressing with a more humane trap? How did you do with wild rice this year?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The humane trap? We've worked very closely with four or five inventors from northern Ontario. In fact, there's one—

Mr. Stokes: Yes, I introduced you to one.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, there's one from Timmins now who has an excellent one. It looks very, very good.

Mr. Ferrier: What's his name?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He is a French fellow. He had difficulty speaking English, but I spoke to him at Thunder Bay and we—

Mr. Stokes: Mr. Vogt from Manitouwadge.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We've conducted about 200 tests in total with different types of traps, and we are continuing our efforts. In fact, this year we have broadened our field of interest and area of obtaining information, and we've formed a national committee with the federal government. There are five other provinces involved, and I am pleased to say that John Brubacher is the chairman of that national committee. It's pulling together information from other provinces which are concerned about the same matter.

So we are working on it. The way we are going I am confident that we will have some-

thing that is more humane than the leg-hold trap in the not too distant future. I feel very confident.

Mr. Stokes: I think you should make the public aware of this.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have. We are embarking on an educational programme too—not only to educate and assist the trapper, but to educate the general public as to the benefits, and the efforts we are making in humane trapping.

Mr. Stokes: Yes. Now, could you fill us in on how the fur sales went this year?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The fur sales were fantastic.

Mr. Stokes: Yes?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, just literally fantastic. It's an all-time record in the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Stokes: I think we should get it on the record. Tell us about it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I was in North Bay for the Ontario Trappers' Association annual convention and at one of their sales held just prior to that convention they had sold over \$5 million worth.

Mr. Stokes: At one sale?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: At one sale. An all-time record. In fact, one wolf skin sold for \$175. They were just flying high, really—every trapper there was elated at the results of that particular sale. And from all indications it will continue, because long hairs—

Mr. Stokes: They really don't need a bounty then?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, they really don't. You know, you can't justify a bounty when they are getting this price for wolf skins. That's not the average now, that was just one skin—but they are averaging anywhere from \$30 to \$40 a skin. And I can remember just a few years ago wolf skins were a glut on the market—you know, \$1 or \$2. Then you could justify a \$25 bounty. But now, if the trappers were going after wolves for the monetary return, they would get a better price today than they did then. The fur prices were excellent this year.

Mr. Stokes: This is the only place we can bring up wild rice. I know there is nothing in the vote, but it is handled by Mr. Brubacher. Could the minister tell us if you are

going to assist the native people to a greater extent than you are at present to make it more viable? How did it go this year? How close did they come to harvesting on a sustained yield basis? What were the economic benefits? Just what are you doing generally?

Mr. Brubacher: Mr. Chairman, in the wild rice programme there is a new study programme about to begin—looking at other lakes which might be suitable for wild rice and a number of other things. Regionally, there is a great deal of effort going into discovering whether there are areas which are not traditionally those belonging to the native people, so that we can effect a better harvest of the total crop.

The harvest last year was strong, about the same as the year before. There have been two years of very heavy harvest, upwards of two million pounds, and pricing is strong. In northwestern Ontario there is now a very modern and effective processing plant. Until recent years, most of the processing was done outside the province. There is some experimental work being done with paddy rice culture down on the flat, wetter lands in the Fort Frances area. The ministry is looking at methods of getting a more effective harvest of the available crop.

Mr. Stokes: What was the harvest in terms of crop yield? Are we able to assess that realistically?

Mr. Brubacher: It was probably less than half of what could have been harvested had there been enough people at the right place at the right time.

Mr. Stokes: What is the price now on the market for processed rice? I don't mean to you, I mean to me who would have to buy it.

Mr. Brubacher: It depends on what size packages and where you buy it. But anywhere from \$4 to \$7.50 a pound, depending upon the size of the packages, or maybe more.

Mr. Stokes: Was the harvest about 1½ million pounds?

Mr. Brubacher: I think it was between 1½ million and 2 million, sir.

Mr. Stokes: So, it is a significant source of income for native people if they choose to be in the right place at the right time.

Mr. Brubacher: Indeed it is. Of course the price of green rice is somewhat less than processed, because there is something like a

50 per cent loss in the processing of green rice to a finished product.

Mr. Stokes: But it is a significant cash crop?

Mr. Brubacher: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I can get the hon. member all he wants at \$2.95 wholesale.

Mr. Stokes: Okay, I will talk to you later. I am finished.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: No, I want to speak to 2204, the next vote.

Vote 2203 and item 4, vote 2204, agreed to.
On vote 2204:

Mr. Chairman: Item 1, vote 2204. Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: In the minister's leadoff speech he mentioned, I believe, something about national resources policy. I think it was a year ago the minister mentioned something about that too. I would like to know just how far the minister's ministry has come with this natural resource policy. Different meetings have been held with the different ministers of natural resources throughout Canada within the last year. I thought perhaps the minister would have a policy statement on that.

The minister also mentioned that he would have a statement on the task force on the Onakawana lignite fields.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, the report on the Onakawana feasibility study is being printed.

Mr. Haggerty: It is being printed at the present time?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. When it comes back to our ministry, we will do a very careful examination of it, as will Ontario Hydro. It will go to policy field and, of course, the government will make a decision following that. I am hopeful we will be making a statement before the session ends in June.

Mr. Haggerty: Hopefully eh?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, this is my hope; we want to get on with it. I might tell you the essence of the report, really, indicates that it would be more expensive to develop that lignite deposit for the generation of electrical power; more expensive than nuclear and about the same as fossil fuels.

Mr. Haggerty: It would be the same as fossil fuels?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, about the same price as fossil fuels.

Mr. Haggerty: But there are other ingredients such as precious metals that could be—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, not in that particular one. There is a—

Mr. Haggerty: I thought there was, according to the report?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, there is a clay, a pottery clay.

Mr. Haggerty: Pottery clay?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is very attractive and I might say we have a tremendous amount of interest in the development of that particular resource.

Mr. Haggerty: I thought also there was a high content of copper found in the lignite field itself?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not to my knowledge; maybe the experts. I've never known copper to be in that. No, there is none. Pottery clay and soft coal is what's there.

Mr. Haggerty: But the ministry is thinking, perhaps through the Ministry of Energy, of developing that particular site?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Once the report is in our hands and studied in detail—it was a \$500,000 study—it will take some careful examination.

Mr. Haggerty: This is in joint partnership with—what's the name of the firm?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Manalta Coal.

Mr. Haggerty: From Alberta somewhere?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Alberta; and the Ontario Hydro and the Ontario government. It's a feasibility study.

Mr. Haggerty: There is no other firm—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No other firm.

Mr. Haggerty: —or company involved in the development?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, there is not.

Mr. Haggerty: Has the minister taken any steps to adopt some of the recommendations on foreign ownership in the mining industry in the report of the select committee on

economic and cultural nationalism of the legislative assembly? You have not—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, this has not been brought before the government.

Mr. Haggerty: It has not?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are looking at it within our own ministry on how it affects the mineral industry and we will be commenting. That will go to policy field and then on to the government. But the government will be making—

Mr. Haggerty: When can we expect some policy on it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I really can't put a date on that or a time figure; really I can't.

Mr. Haggerty: There is nothing on the forest industry either? In their report?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. I think it would be fair to say that a number of those reports would go to the government as a package.

Mr. Haggerty: Surely you must have some recommendations on the report on foreign ownership?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have within our own ministry; yes, within our own field.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you given any consideration about screening them?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I beg your pardon?

Mr. Haggerty: A screening procedure on foreign ownership?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm not in a position to give any recommendations we've brought together within our own ministry because I don't even know if it is accepted by the government. I think it would be very unfair, in fact, it wouldn't be correct if I commented on that.

We gave the select committee a tremendous amount of information for that report which we had gathered and pulled together within our own ministry on foreign ownership as it relates to the mining industry and as it relates to the forest industry. We are very cognizant of what is in there.

Mr. Haggerty: But you are not ready to pass on any information to the cabinet on some of the proposals, or whether you are going to accept some of them or reject some of them?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That will come when the report gets to the policy field.

Mr. Haggerty: By that time, everybody will own Canada.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, it won't be that far away.

Mr. Haggerty: It won't be that far away?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, it won't.

Mr. Haggerty: I mentioned last year that I was concerned about the matter of processing in Canada all the ores mined in the Province of Ontario. I believe last year, in Hansard, you said there were two or three companies dealing with zinc and silver, I guess it would be, which were not processing in Ontario. Is this still continuing or are you still giving mining companies certain privileges under section 113 of the Mining Act to export raw ore to other countries?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. We have not cancelled any exemption permits under section 113 because there are no facilities and there have been no major changes in regard to the refining and smelting capacity of the Province of Ontario since last year. That was only last December, so there has been no change.

Mr. Haggerty: No changes at all? Are you still allowing them to export the raw material then?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Just some, not all. It is not a general application.

Mr. Ferrier: You promised that you would table the exemptions that were granted, and in tabling those exemptions would you mind saying where Texasgulf is having its zinc, copper and lead—but not silver—and its various products processed beyond the concentrate stage and specifically give the breakdown where the others are being processed?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: What was that specific request again?

Mr. Ferrier: The minister said he would give us a breakdown of all the exemptions. Could you be more specific as to what requirement you are making of Texasgulf or Ecstall Mining in regard to processing? I think they have to refine about 50 per cent of the zinc in Canada. Now could you say where the other 51 or 49 per cent is being refined? And what about the copper and the lead? I am not sure about the silver; I don't think it is processed to its final stage at Timmins. Do you have that information there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask my executive director of mining, who is an expert in this field, to answer your question.

Mr. G. A. Jewett (Executive Director, Division of Mines): The situation at Texasgulf is fairly new. They have completed a zinc refinery there within the last two years and it was designed initially to fully refine 50 per cent of their zinc capacity. Their plea at the time was that they felt this was all they could market in the United States where they had the facilities to market and dispose of the material, and when the market situation developed they would be looking into further expansion. The copper from that plant is now being refined at the Noranda smelter in Quebec.

Mr. Ferrier: All of it?

Mr. Jewett: I believe so, yes. I would have to inquire in detail as to the position on the silver. They are recovering cadmium and tin at the plant now.

Mr. Ferrier: I also noticed in their annual report that they were considering a lead smelter, as I understand it, for the Timmins area as well.

Mr. Jewett: They have found a considerable amount of lead in the ore and it apparently is becoming more and more significant, yes.

Mr. Ferrier: Where is that going now? Out in the tailings?

Mr. Jewett: I don't believe so, no.

Mr. Stokes: St. Joseph, Mo., isn't it?

Mr. Jewett: I would have to check on that.

Mr. Haggerty: Is the minister planning on giving any more exemptions to mining companies in Ontario to export more of their raw ore to other countries? What other ore bodies are there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Since the last estimates?

Mr. Haggerty: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am just running through the list here. That would be in 1974 basically? No, we have not.

Mr. Haggerty: If they can process 50 per cent, why wouldn't Texasgulf do 100 per cent here? Your director mentioned that. He said they are not processing 50 per cent of their ore in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I just have a correction to make. Yes, we did grant one to Agnico Mines Ltd. of Cobalt because of the lack of silver refineries. They have been given an exemption as of Feb. 28, 1974. That's the only one since the last time.

Mr. Haggerty: I thought they had a refinery up in Cobalt?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You will recall last year we discussed in some detail that the ore coming out of that particular area was very heavy in arsenic, and there were no processing facilities in that particular area. The only plant where they could be processed was in the United States. The quantity is not sufficient to establish one there to make it economically viable.

Mr. Haggerty: But if they can spend that much money on railways to ship it down there then—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. Well, I think the price of silver is going up.

Mr. Haggerty: This is what I am coming to. I mean the price of all mineral ore has gone up. You would think it would be profitable for your ministry to say, "Refine it here. Build the secondary plants here in Ontario." I think our main concern is to provide employment for the people in Ontario, particularly in northern Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Certainly before any exemption is ever given, all these aspects are carefully reviewed. It is fair to say that this government is most anxious to have as much processing of our ores in the Province of Ontario as possible. If not in the Province of Ontario, of course we accept Canada.

Mr. Haggerty: Is there any export tax on raw ore going to the United States or some other country? Do you have a surtax on ore?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, not to my knowledge.

Mr. Haggerty: Why not?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, we have a mining tax—

Mr. Haggerty: I know but—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —on the industry itself.

Mr. Haggerty: I am thinking about a special tax on ore that is being exported to the States in its raw form—a tax that you could use for further exploration.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Talk to your man from Timmins. He's concerned.

Mr. Haggerty: Funds available for—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He's concerned, aren't you, Mr. Ferrier?

Mr. Ferrier: Not any more, not any more.

An hon. member: Touch wood.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Bill wouldn't make a comment on that.

Mr. Ferrier: I will comment later.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I know he's concerned.

Mr. Chairman: Actually we are on item 2 now, aren't we?

Mr. Haggerty: I am just wondering, his policy—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I beg your pardon.

Mr. Haggerty: I am talking about policy. We are talking about—

Mr. Chairman: We can discuss the two of them together, can't we?

Mr. Martel: What?

Mr. Chairman: Items 1 and 2.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's the same thing.

An hon. member: The same with forestry too.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do you want to take the three together?

Mr. Ferrier: No, programme administration for forestry. That could be discussed.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh sure. We'll be here till the end of June.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you given any consideration to applying an export tax on raw ore being exported to the States or some other country for processing?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, we have not considered that.

Mr. Haggerty: Why not?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that we have a mines profits tax now, and that is the place to give it. We have a strict control under section 115 to restrict the export of ore—

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, but—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —and to further tax that ore on export, because there are no refining facilities, no smelting facilities for that particular type of ore or that commodity, I think would be defeating the purpose.

Mr. B. Newman: Exporting jobs.

Mr. Haggerty: Exporting jobs. All I am suggesting is there is revenue here that could come back for use in exploration.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, I can assure you that every one of these—that mine in Cobalt is a very marginal operation; either you have the jobs there—

Mr. Haggerty: If any place needs jobs, it's around the Cobalt area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's exactly right.

Mr. Haggerty: It's a dead place right now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Now we could be firm and say no, no export permit.

Mr. Haggerty: They can't forever try to make a few dollars on that miners' festival up there, because that's—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Those are the things. And I think you are a reasonable man—

Mr. Haggerty: They can't make a living on that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —and see that as well as I do.

Mr. Haggerty: And I thought perhaps some encouragement in that area would produce the jobs. Perhaps even the mineral export tax could be used for further exploration and development here in Ontario. It's a way of gaining revenue. The other matter I wanted to discuss is concerning the in-plant environment in some of these mines, particularly in northern Ontario. Just how much monitoring does your department do in the Elliot Lake area—in the uranium mines? How active is your department in there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, we have two mine inspectors stationed right at Elliot Lake; there are only two major mines there. Of course they operate in and out of Elliot Lake and our monitoring—I mentioned in the Legislature the other day, the number of audits we do. I know that the criticism will come, but the mine does the testing and all we do is the auditing. This is a common practice in the mining industry right across Canada.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, then—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Whether it has that obligation. We audit it. We check the methods by which they take these samples. And it is very carefully scrutinized. You audit their books for their taxes. You audit their reports for—

Mr. Haggerty: I mean this might be quite so, that you audit the books and that, but I mean when there is an increase in the number of miners coming down with some mining disease, then I suggest that maybe you should be changing your procedure, that maybe your department should be in there doing the monitoring. Now you can say that everything is—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think that you can say there's an increase. I would like you to substantiate that statement.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, I—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We need proof positive that that is a correct statement.

Mr. Haggerty: The statement in the House had been 117—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do you believe everything you hear in that Legislature?

Mr. Haggerty: I don't know. This is why I am questioning you, to find out. Has there been an increase in silicosis or radiation or cancer?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Maybe I can read a statement into the record. I have a statement here prepared that I think would be of interest to all the members of this committee.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes. Let's see what it is. We'll go from there then.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Just as a matter of interest:

Silicosis was designated as an industrial disease for compensation purposes in Ontario in 1926. In 1928, legislative provision was made under the Mining Act requiring that every person employed in a dust exposure occupation in a mine must have a pre-employment physical examination, including a chest x-ray. From 1925, a continuing programme of dust control has been undertaken by the mines of Ontario. To the end of 1972 [this is in the total history (of the mining) industry] a total of 1,733 cases of silicosis have been found among all mining groups.

Mr. Haggerty: How many?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: One thousand, seven hundred and thirty-three.

Mr. Haggerty: There were 1,733 cases?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. Now, my next statement I hope you will record: "Of these 1,733 cases, 93.2 per cent received their first dust exposure prior to 1930."

Shall I read that again? I said, "Of these 1,733 cases, 93.2 per cent received their first dust exposure prior to 1930."

Mr. Ferrier: Well, certainly not all of their dust exposure was.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: My statement goes on:

As silica effects are noted in the lungs of workmen receiving the annual x-ray of the Workmen's Compensation Board, these are rated in a scale 1 to 9.

A person is defined as medically having the condition called silicosis when the exposure reaches the 0.05 level. More silicosis cases were found in the uranium mines in 1972 than in any previous year, a total of 11. But none has been found among miners whose first dust exposure occurred after 1961.

There have been no silicosis cases reported since 1961.

Mr. Haggerty: That's the whole point. In any research study—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Those are the facts.

Mr. B. Newman: That could be true.

Mr. Martel: It took more than 10 years for cases to show.

Mr. Haggerty: I think you are right in what you are telling me, but I understand from reports I have read that silicosis doesn't show up until about 20 to 30 years after they have been employed in that type of industry. So that's when it really shows, not in four or five or 10 years, unless they come in with some uranium or radiation dust that perhaps will show signs of cancer perhaps within three or four years.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Let me finish my statement:

Up to 1972, 53 cases of silicosis have been diagnosed in workers employed in uranium mines. Approximately 30 are working in the Elliot Lake area at this time. Under Bill 269, amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Board Act, 102 pen-

sions have been granted for cases of pneumoconiosis occurring in all industries in Ontario. Of these, 20 worked in Elliot Lake and at this time [I wish I had my glasses] were awarded a pension for the exposure in the Elliot Lake mines.

Of the 24 silicotics who died in 1972, the average age of death [my God, that is worse] was 74.8, and the elapsed time for a recognition to death was 20.7. This compares with death at an average age of 49.9 after 5.7 years among silicotics who died between 1926 and 1945. Tuberculosis, as a cause of death among many silicotics, dropped from about 75 per cent in those years to about three per cent during the last four years.

Silicosis occurs in several stages of severity. At the 5 rate, a 5 rating is the first radiological sign of silicosis, but 5s do not necessarily progress to the stage where there is a disability including the lessened capacity for work.

The medical statistics unit of the Workmen's Compensation Board provides information on a number of new 5 chest ratings found each year during the regular miners' examinations. In 1931 the incidence was 6.6 5 ratings per thousand men in dust exposure. In comparison, the average incidence during the past 10 years is 1.4.

These figures include all Ontario miners, regardless of the silica hazard involved, and also include cases among workers who have left the industry. I believe these figures are encouraging and indicate that much has been done to prevent disabling silicosis, improve the life expectancy and reduce dangers of tuberculosis complications.

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): That is bullshit.

An hon. member: Hold it. We are right out of that brand.

Mr. Laughren: That is so much nonsense.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Laughren: I don't know how much longer we can sit here with those kinds of statements from the minister, who stands up in the House and says that the miners in Elliot Lake are exaggerating their problems. Then he sits here and confesses to the number of silicosis cases—

Mr. Martel: One hundred and seventy.

Mr. Laughren: —now in Elliot Lake and the number of pensions granted.

Mr. Martel: One hundred and seventy.

Mr. Laughren: My stomach just isn't that strong.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I can take the same attitude as the member.

Mr. Martel: You do.

Mr. Laughren: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You are making exaggerated, irresponsible statements.

Mr. Martel: You are the one—170 cases—

Mr. Laughren: The minister is irresponsible. You don't give a damn for those miners in Elliot Lake. The minister is only interested in defending those companies—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: These are the facts.

Mr. Laughren: We don't have the stomach the minister has for that kind of attitude.

Mr. Martel: One hundred and seven pensions means 10 per cent of the work force up there, doesn't it?

Mr. Laughren: The minister is so consistently on the defensive for those mining companies it is sickening. With that kind of record in Elliot Lake you shouldn't even be the minister here.

Mr. Martel: How many pensions in Elliot Lake?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Martel: One hundred and seventy?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: One hundred and two in all the industry in Ontario.

An hon. member: No, in Elliot Lake.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The member always tends to twist it.

Mr. Laughren: When is the last time the minister was in Elliot Lake?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You exaggerate and broaden those figures.

Mr. Martel: Go back and tell me how many years.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Be factual. I just put the facts on the record.

Mr. Martel: Read that part on Elliot Lake again for me on the number of pensions. The figure is valid up until 1972 only.

Mr. Haggerty: One hundred and two pensions.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: "One hundred and two pensions have been granted for cases of pneumoconiosis occurring in all industries in Ontario. Of the people with this disease, 20 worked in the Elliot Lake area and at this time—

Mr. Martel: Go back before that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: "—and were awarded a pension for exposure in the Elliot Lake mines."

Mr. Martel: Go back before that. Then see how it goes.

Mr. Ferrier: —patients in the uranium mines. There are 73 right there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Up until 1973, 53 cases of silicosis were diagnosed in workers employed at uranium mines.

Mr. Martel: Where else are operating uranium mines located in Ontario?

Mr. Laughren: You are the one who distorts the facts.

Mr. Martel: Where else is there a large-scale uranium operation in Ontario?

Mr. Laughren: You are consistent—

Mr. Martel: So you have 53 silicosis and 20 pneumoconiosis cases and most of them right in Elliot Lake up to 1972. Let's get the facts on the record. Up until the Act was loosened up this year only a man who left the area of exposure was given his pension. Under the new compensation Act men can draw the pension and still remain, and that is why many of them don't show up on the record. So the minister should put the facts on the table as they are. Don't come around here with garbage.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Don't get emotional and—

Mr. Martel: Emotional. The minister sits there like a pompous ass!

An hon. member: Hold it, we are right—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The facts are there.

Mr. Martel: Tell me how many there are under the new Act.

An hon. member: Tell us how many—

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, may I continue with my questioning here? The hon. member will get his time later on.

Mr. Laughren: How many up to—

Mr. Martel: Yes, we will come back to it.

Mr. Haggerty: How many persons have died of cancer, or have come down with cancer in the uranium industry in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know. Maybe Mr. Jewett has that information.

Mr. Jewett: I believe five.

Mr. Haggerty: Five last year or the year before? In the last 10 years?

Mr. Jewett: Up until 1972—the member's question was how many people have come down—

Mr. Haggerty: Died of cancer or—

Mr. Laughren: Boy, you are showing your true colours, Leo.

Mr. Haggerty: —subject to cancer.

Mr. Jewett: Are you talking about any particular area?

Mr. Haggerty: I am talking about in the uranium industry.

Mr. Jewett: I believe the number is five.

Mr. Haggerty: Five, eh? For last year?

Mr. Jewett: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: What about the last 10 years?

Mr. Jewett: I would like to refer that question to the doctors. I will get the answer for you tomorrow.

Mr. Haggerty: What monitoring does your department do for—

Mr. Ferrier: Five died and the cause of death was cancer and was contributed to by uranium exposure?

Mr. Jewett: Again, I would like to refer that question to the doctors and get the member the answer. I believe that they are reluctant to attribute it directly to exposure. They also question the part that smoking plays in this.

Mr. M. C. Germa (Sudbury): The doctors are just like the mining inspectors.

An hon. member: A doctor is a doctor.

Mr. Germa: Yes, they are all in the companies' pockets, too.

Mr. Jewett: Radon gas.

Mr. Haggerty: Radon gas.

An hon. member: What monitoring do you carry on in that particular type of—

Mr. Jewett: We have regular reports from the companies of the readings they are taking and our inspectors review them periodically.

Mr. Haggerty: What do you mean? Every six months?

Mr. Jewett: I would like to refer that question to Harold Davis, the chief mining engineer, if you wouldn't mind.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis (Director, Mines Engineering Branch): What was the question?

Mr. Jewett: How often do our inspectors—

Mr. Haggerty: Monitor the radon gas.

Mr. Jewett:—monitor the radon gas readings at the mines?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: The surveys are taken quarterly through the year and the inspectors check these things as they go around in the mines. When we get the summary of these results they are checked by the district engineers every three months.

Mr. Haggerty: In other words, you're not taking a reading every day?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Yes, the mines are taking readings continually, every working day.

Mr. Haggerty: Has anybody from the minister's staff been down in the mines to do the monitoring themselves? How often do you send an inspector down the mines themselves?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: The inspectors go down the mines, I would say, about every two months, not more than three months.

Mr. Haggerty: Do they take monitoring devices down with them?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: No, they don't.

Mr. Haggerty: There's nothing whatsoever there to take the radiation count then?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: We don't have the equipment for it, but they do go around—

Mr. Haggerty: You don't have the equipment?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: We don't have the equipment for it. We go around with the ventilation men and see that they do it, and we've just recently completed a survey by the federal government that has shown that the procedures and techniques that they use are correct and accurate.

Mr. Haggerty: In other words, you don't have any—

Mr. Martel: You water it down for two days ahead of time.

Mr. Haggerty: In other words, Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, there's no control over the occupancy time? This is where, perhaps, if a person has come in on the radiation count a little bit too high then he's either pulled out of the mine and put up some place in a cleaner working area. Does this take place?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Yes, the exposure to each individual miner is recorded and there have been no cases where the exposure has been great enough that they have to be taken out of the mine into a less exposed area.

Mr. Haggerty: What is the level of concentration that is supposed to be safe for the employee?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: The level that we have set for radiation is six working-level months per year.

Mr. Haggerty: Does that conform pretty well with other countries, for working levels?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: I understand that the—

Mr. Haggerty: Standards set by other countries, I should say.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: The International Commission on Radiation Protection has recommended a level of four.

Mr. Haggerty: Four? Why do we have six?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: According to the experts who are involved in this thing it hasn't really been decided. They're not certain that this is the correct level that it should be.

Mr. Haggerty: Then, if you're not sure, why would you pick a six-month level?

Mr. Martel: Instead of two?

Mr. Haggerty: Why not three if we're not sure?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: At one time it was considered that 12 working-level months was proper for a man working five days a week, 50 weeks of the year, and that this would be good for 50 years, I believe it is. We have cut it down from 12 to eight and last year we cut it down from eight to six.

Mr. Haggerty: How do you remove radon daughters in the mines themselves?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: How do you remove radon—

Mr. Haggerty: Daughters, yes; the components of uranium, I guess.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Mainly by ventilation.

Mr. Haggerty: By ventilation? And how often do you check the ventilation, particularly in the Elliot Lake area?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: The ventilation is checked by the engineers every time they go around the mine.

Mr. Haggerty: Are there any problems with the ventilation under winter conditions?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: I wouldn't think there would be any greater problems, or more problems in winter conditions. There is a certain amount of air that is pushed into the mine and this is sufficient to take care of the ventilation.

Mr. Haggerty: There is no chance of a freeze-up in the ventilation system in the winter time, is there?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Not to my knowledge, no.

Mr. Haggerty: What about the men down in the mines working in, say, the area of where the uranium is found? How is the fresh air received there?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: The air is circulated through the mine in a pattern set up by the ventilation engineers to cover all working areas. If the working areas are not adequately covered by this method, then there is auxiliary ventilation installed in the working areas.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you have direct flow of air going right to the area where the men are working?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Not to each individual working area. The air has to start from the surface. It has to go down to the lowest levels through the working areas and back out to the exhaust ventilation system.

Mr. Haggerty: I thought in some mines in the United States now they use plastic tubing to bring fresh air to the miners right at the working area.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: This is part of it. The air is pumped through these ventilation pipes.

Mr. Haggerty: How close to the working area would these tubes be?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: The tube could be within 50 ft.

Mr. Haggerty: Within 50 ft, eh? How often are the tubes inspected, then?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: How often are they inspected?

Mr. Haggerty: That's right, for damage.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: They would be inspected every day that the working men go down to the working place. If there is a leak in it this would be reported and it would be repaired.

Mr. Haggerty: But there is nobody from your department who goes down to check on this at all, is there?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: This is part of our inspection work, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: What type of respirators do they use in the area that the men are working in?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: What type of respirator?

Mr. Haggerty: Respirator, yes.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: A type of respirator that is designed for the express purpose of filtering the radon gases and dust.

Mr. Haggerty: That would remove the heavy particles, would it not?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Not the heavy particles, no, it would be the respirable dust.

Mr. Haggerty: What happens if a person is working under strenuous conditions? What happens then, does he lift the mask at all?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Under what type of condition?

Mr. Haggerty: Strenuous working conditions.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Strenuous?

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, strenuous.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: I don't quite know what the hon. member means by it, but if I understand it properly, the use of the respirator would cut down on his abilities.

Mr. Haggerty: This is right. Wouldn't it?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Well, the respirators are designed to minimize the back-up of the air through the respirator, and are designed to give the man breathing almost as easy as it would be without a respirator.

Mr. Haggerty: Do the respirators remove the radon gas at all?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Yes, the efficiency of the respirators is about 80 per cent to 90 per cent.

Mr. Haggerty: You are sure of that now, are you?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: So far as I know.

Mr. Haggerty: I thought that in reports that come out of the United States Department of Mines that the respirators do not remove radon gas.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Certain respirators wouldn't, but the type that we use here do.

Mr. Haggerty: Now to go back to your opening remarks. In other words, you are only making a spot check three or four times a year on the working conditions in the mines themselves and on the working environment of the men?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: When I say that the engineers go into the mine about three or four times a year, this would be called a formal inspectoin tour. However, they are down there more often covering certain individual problems or complaints.

Mr. Haggerty: What type of complaints would they have?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: If the member is referring to Elliot Lake, we have had very few complaints from the workers until just a few weeks ago.

Mr. Haggerty: Why just a few weeks ago?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: I would say that they haven't been passing the complaints in to us. The procedures that have been set up to deal with complaints haven't been followed.

Mr. Haggerty: How often does your department get involved in any of these grievances, particularly when the men are com-

plaining about working conditions down in the mine? How often do you follow these up?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Every time we get a complaint.

Mr. Haggerty: Every time you get a complaint, eh? And you go down in the mines yourself and they are inspected then, are they?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Pardon?

Mr. Haggerty: Then one of your staff will go down into the mines and check it out, will he?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: That's right.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you use water for some form of filtration down there; say, keeping the dust down?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Yes, all the drills that are used have a water connection to them that goes right into the hole and gets the dust at the source. In the scraping areas there are continuous or intermittent sprays and after each blast there is an air-water spray that is blown on to the muck pile to keep the dust down. In addition to this, water is sprayed on the roadways to keep the dust down.

Mr. Martel: That isn't what the man told us, Mr. Davis.

Mr. Haggerty: Why do you use water to keep the dust down? What's the purpose of it? What's the reason for it?

Mr. Stokes: You answered your own question. Why do you use water to keep the dust down?

Mr. Haggerty: You keep the dust down, but why do you keep the dust down?

Mr. Martel: So you don't breathe it.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, that's the point I am coming to.

An hon. member: All right.

Mr. Haggerty: All right. So there is a potential health hazard in the dust, and these men perhaps are going to be sucking this dust in over a period of years. No doubt about it, it's going to cause some serious health problems.

Mr. Martel: Is that why you sprinkle?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: There is dust in every mine. I don't think you could mine anything without creating dust.

Mr. Haggerty: How much radioactive material is in that dust that settles and goes down into the water? What do you do when you pump the water out? Where does it go? Have you taken any samples of the—

Mr. Martel: It goes into the river and pollutes the river.

Mr. Haggerty: We are coming to that, Elie.

Mr. Martel: The water is so important.

Mr. Haggerty: So you are getting rid of the dust and perhaps other contaminants. Then you are going to pump it out of the mine and out into some watercourse. What happens there?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: The water does go out of the mine and most of it is re-circulated through the mine as it's pumped up and is re-used. But what water does go out has to be treated in the tailings ponds before it leaves to run into the streams in the adjacent areas.

Mr. Haggerty: There is no concentration of any radiation at all, is there, once it goes through this process?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Yes, I think there would be. The Ministry of the Environment has jurisdiction over this area and they are keeping—

Mr. Haggerty: I suppose we'll have to follow that up with them.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. May I ask a question as a relative newcomer to the committee? Is this a status factor here? Is this employee of the ministry so low on the ladder that he has to stand in such a way that the questioning occurs in front of him and he faces the members' backs. Is it not possible to let another mortal come to the front table so that we can see him and talk to him; so that the questioner might talk to him?

Mr. Chairman: The point is well taken. Come to the front, please.

Mr. Lewis: It's amazing.

Mr. Haggerty: Thank you, Stephen, now I know—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: To continue with my question then: We know you are removing the dust by water, you are pumping it to the outside atmosphere. Then we come to the matter of air ventilation. What happens when

you pump the fresh air down into the mine and it's down there and it's pumped back out again? Where does this go? Or is this being recycled back into the mine too without the safety precautions there?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: No. The air would be exhausted out to the atmosphere.

Mr. Haggerty: There's no recycling of air at all then?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: No.

Mr. Haggerty: Where would the exhaust fan be located, say in the Elliot Lake area? Is it downwind from the main—

Mr. Martel: It goes into the Bastianis' house.

Mr. Haggerty: It'll probably go some place. Is it downwind from the main ventilation?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: They are in areas that are not adjacent to any community or living quarters.

Mr. Haggerty: There's no chance of it getting back into the mines again though, is there?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: I wouldn't think so, no.

Mr. Haggerty: You wouldn't think so, but you're not sure. Well, I don't know. Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, I can sense there is a problem and perhaps lack of proper inspection by your ministry. I think there should be a little more inspection and monitoring throughout all mines in Ontario for the possibility of hazardous working conditions for the employees in these mines.

Perhaps somebody else may want to follow that line. I know Mr. Martel is just waiting to get into this. I would be a little concerned about the number of silicosis cases there.

Mr. Martel: There aren't any. The minister told you, don't worry about it.

Mr. Haggerty: They are there. There's 1,700 of them over a period of 40 years. Whether they all got compensation or not; I doubt if they all did receive compensation for their industrial injury.

Mr. Laughren: It was just like you said, it was the operators who took the test in the mines, right. You didn't say the company, you said the operators. You were distorting it just by that statement in itself. We know the minister's games.

Mr. Haggerty: It's not this ministry that's taken the samples of air in the mines, and I think it should be doing it directly, not depending on somebody else. Your men or your staff should be down there—with the proper headgear, the mask and everything else—immediately after a charge is let go, the dynamiting or blasting or whatever might take place in the mines. That's when the air sampling should be done.

Perhaps if I was to go down into the mine it would be nice and clean, washed down and everything. You wouldn't see too much wrong with it. But I think if you get down there when those men are actually doing the work, that's when the problems exist. I think there should perhaps be more research done on it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it's fair to say that the staff, as Mr. Davis has pointed out, the inspectors do go down when the men are working, under working conditions.

Mr. Haggerty: You wouldn't have all those grievances if your ministry was doing the job it should be doing. Those men wouldn't put a grievance in if they didn't have some justification for it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We answer all the grievances that come to our attention, as Mr. Davis has pointed out.

Mr. Laughren: Given the biases of this ministry, Ray, don't encourage them.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is a serious situation.

Mr. Laughren: You're damn right it is, and you should treat it as such!

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We do.

Mr. Laughren: You do not.

Mr. Haggerty: It is a serious situation, but I feel another matter is that the employees working in many industries, not only in mines but in industry throughout Ontario, have little input when it comes to safety matters and the types of hygienic conditions that should be employed in industry or in mines today. There are instances where persons have been told: "Either you keep your mouth shut or you don't have a job." I would suggest that perhaps—Elie going back to my private bill, I think you do support me on this—they should have that input, by regulations or by legislation. Men working in industry, particularly the safety committees, should have some voice and say in mining operations in Ontario.

Mr. Ferrier: That's the way it is in BC.

Mr. Haggerty: I guess you're right; maybe in Saskatchewan, too. I think it is in Saskatchewan.

Mr. Martel: You don't want to give the peasants any say.

Mr. Haggerty: Well if they don't there's going to be a day of reckoning.

Mr. Laughren: The federal government's record isn't so good on this whole matter of uranium either.

Mr. Haggerty: It's an important subject at the present time, because we're going to have to depend upon it for energy. To send a group of men down in that mine and say, "The health risk is there in 10 years—you might not be employed in the industry any more"—if the risk is that great then they should have every protection there is. I think that perhaps your ministry is a little bit lax in mine inspection. I should say, to be more definite, you are lax. That's all I have to say.

Mr. Lewis: Are you going to bring Dr. Anders in here at some point?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Lewis: Let's quit for the vote, Bill, it's 10:25.

Mr. Ferrier: I'll go on for a little while here. Some of the things that have been mentioned about the silicosis policy are very disturbing. You mentioned the number of cases which have been allowed in the last year or two.

I don't suppose there is anybody in this room who has gone to the compensation board more than I have with old miners who have developed serious chest conditions or with widows whose husbands have had silicosis and who have tried to establish the relationship of their exposure to dust with their serious lung condition or the development of silicosis and death from silicosis.

If you try to fight a case for a man who has had a longstanding lung condition and silicosis has been allowed by the compensation board and the pension has been granted over a number of years, invariably you will get the answer, "It was something else he died from"—whether it is a heart attack or whether it is cancer of the lungs. I am beginning to think that long exposure to dust has some bearing perhaps on the cancer some of these men are developing.

It has shown up in the sintering plant. It is beginning to show up in uranium exposure. Perhaps it has got some relevance to the silic exposure in gold mines over the years.

I have been arguing for years that this miner and the government should adopt a policy whereby it is not just silicosis that should be compensated for, it should be a variety of ailments and lung and chest conditions which men develop through long-time exposure in the mining industry. This way, there would be some justice done to those who develop these conditions through their long-time exposure.

Over the years, the sufferers have been the men who worked in the earlier days when dust control was not so great. You have such a tremendous concentration developing now in Elliot Lake which would indicate to me that for every one you have diagnosed—if it is anything like it is in Timmins—there are five developing serious chest conditions, breathing problems and all the other health problems which come along with it. They haven't had their cases allowed, yet their health is seriously impaired.

I say to you, Mr. Minister, that this is a very critical situation. It's very disturbing when it is brought out here by a number of people that your own people do not do any sample tests. You leave it all to the mining companies to do the tests themselves and this immediately calls into suspicion—

Mr. Martel: Suspicion? It is more than suspicion.

Mr. Ferrier: —the validity of any of those tests. We have all heard over the years the statements of the member for Sudbury East—

Mr. Germa: You can't trust the inspectors, either.

Mr. Ferrier: —and other members of the caucus how, in the smelters of Sudbury, if they see an inspector coming on the scene, they open the flues and this type of thing and make the environment that much better so that things don't show up.

I think what I said in my leadoff should have some relevance here. When working conditions become so bad that men walk off the job, they should have the kind of protection in the Ontario Act which now has been incorporated into the Act in BC. There, if conditions become so bad, the men can go off work without punitive action being taken against them. This would provide some protection for those working men, particularly in the smelters and that type of thing, and per-

haps you should be making on-the-spot checks yourselves on unannounced regular visits.

Mr. Martel: Unannounced. You heard that.

Mr. Laughren: Uninvited!

Mr. Ferrier: The men also should have some kind of equipment to take dust counts and so on and so they can tabulate the results and watch the development over a period of time. And if their results are much higher than the companies', then you've got two comparable figures to work on.

Now, are we going to adjourn for that vote?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, before we adjourn this evening, Mr. Chairman, this matter of silicosis in the mining industry is something that I think we are anxious to come to grips with. We are treating it as a very serious matter. We are not taking it lightly. Some comments are being bandied about this evening, and I know that the members are not experts in that particular field. Their information is possibly second-hand; some of it may be well researched.

Tomorrow morning, I am prepared to have the doctors and the experts here, people whom the members of this committee can question—people from the Ministry of Health and from the Workmen's Compensation Board. I think it's only fair that they come here, along with my experts—

Mr. Lewis: Bring Stewart from the Workmen's Compensation Board here tomorrow morning, but warn him that it's going to be a rough session.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it's only right that this be brought out here; this is what a committee is for. We are just as anxious in this ministry as you are to clarify this matter and get to the bottom of it—

Mr. Laughren: No, you are not. That's not true.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —and to have the facts.

Mr. Laughren: It's not true. That's an outright lie. You don't give a damn.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are going to be here. You keep saying that, because that is what you want to believe.

Mr. Laughren: That's not what I want to believe.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is what you want to believe.

Mr. Laughren: Those are the facts.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's the impression you want to leave. You are determined—

Mr. Laughren: We have offered evidence—

Mr. Martel: Stacks of evidence.

Mr. Laughren: —that you don't care. And you never have done.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You don't want to get to the bottom of it. You don't want to help the situation.

Mr. Laughren: You don't give a damn. You don't care—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You don't want to come to grips with the situation—

Mr. Laughren: You are only interested in protecting Rio Algom and Denison Mines—you and your friend, Stephen B. Roman.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll give credit to your colleague, the member for Sudbury East: at least he wants to correct the situation—you don't. You take a negative attitude. That's what you want to take—

Mr. Laughren: Yes, sure, Leo—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You don't want to change.

Mr. Laughren: You're the one who doesn't want to do anything.

An hon. member: If you had the power to do anything about this—

Mr. Ferrier: I've been talking here for the last five or six years—

Mr. Chairman: Order. Order.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Tomorrow morning, the experts will be here; they are more qualified than anyone here. It's a very complex, technical problem.

Mr. Martel: Everything we have fought has been an uphill battle in this ministry.

An hon. member: Your hands are tied—

Mr. Ferrier: Well, I've been talking for the last five or six years about why you should broaden the number of chest diseases for men who have had a number of years' exposure to dust in the mining industry. I'm sure that it's got an effect. They have allowed that in the United States in recent amendments to their chest condition legislation.

Mr. Laughren: That's what Leo doesn't want to believe.

Mr. Ferrier: I haven't seen one move by any ministry of this government to really try to come to grips with this problem and to show that there is any effort being made to broaden the grounds for allowing these claims.

It's utterly pathetic to see these people come into your office gasping for breath, literally gasping, and as far as I can see you've done nothing to provide any effort to meet the problems head on. You keep saying they've got to show radiologically that their lung condition is only one condition, silicosis or pneumoconiosis, which is much the same thing—that this kind of scarring has got to take place.

I'm convinced in my mind that the long exposure to this kind of dust has damaged the breathing capacity of these men. And because they have been exposed for a number of years and it has resulted in this condition, I think the least that can be done is to grant them a compensation pension. Pray to God that they never develop this kind of lung condition.

It's heart-rending, it's criminal, that this has been allowed to happen and develop over the years. But at least try to do justice to the men whose entire health has been broken by this industry and who are kicked out on the scrap heap and told, "We don't want you any more. Go and fend for yourself. We accept no responsibility for you."

The mining companies have had no pension schemes before Canada Pension—none of them, with the exception of perhaps Dome with sort of a half-assed pension scheme and compulsory savings scheme which most of the men put into the Hollinger and McIntyre. Noranda has had none.

They just haven't accepted responsibility for the health of their men. I think that is one of the most glaring injustices that has ever been perpetrated upon any group of workmen in any place, to see the way these gold miners, in my particular instance, have developed this kind of condition. Go after the dead and you will find that there is silicosis there, and sometimes the claim is allowed then, but—

Mr. Haggerty: After they are dead.

Mr. Ferrier: After they are dead. Well, they couldn't find it when they were alive, and maybe they can provide something for the widow. But I am not that cognizant of the situation at Elliot Lake. I can only speak for the gold mining community, but I can tell you that the sense of grievance and of injustice is very deep within those communities, and you will never convince them that their

lung conditions didn't develop from their exposure to dust in the gold mines.

Mr. Martel: This is the thing, you know, Mr. Minister. You say you have the experts in. Well, I want to tell you that the breakthroughs we have had in the last six years have been despite the experts, because they haven't helped a damned bit.

Mr. Lewis: Can I ask on that?

Mr. Martel: It has been with little bits of information and a tough battle. To call on the experts from your staff and from down below has been a waste of time. We have had to prove everything every inch of the way. Instead of your staff helping to rectify situations, we have had to embarrass you into doing it.

You only have to look at Falconbridge last year. After three years, you finally got a little worked up, but your staff was there for three years watching it and they didn't do a damned thing. So you can bring experts from now until you pile them to the top of this building. They are not fulfilling their obligations. They never have. They have been in the hip pockets of the companies and you know it and I know it.

Mr. Lewis: Let me just ask a question. Who do you intend to bring? Who do you have in mind?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will work on that first thing in the morning.

Mr. Lewis: Well, you don't know yet whom you will have here? Did you mean experts from your own ministry or did you mean from the Workmen's Compensation Board, or—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I hope to have somebody from the Workmen's Compensation Board and also from the Ministry of Health.

Mr. Lewis: Somebody from the Ministry of Health and somebody from the Workmen's Compensation Board.

Mr. Martel: Maybe you can bring Dr. Mastromatteo back from Geneva. That is the one I believe in.

Mr. Lewis: No, no. There are some pretty informed members of this committee. I see the member for Oshawa (Mr. McIlveen) for whom I have a particular affection who would obviously want to know something about medical opinion.

If you are going to bring someone from the Ministry of Health and someone from

the Workmen's Compensation Board, will the committee also allow a doctor or doctors from the community of Elliot Lake who are dealing in private practice with the men also to come before this committee and indicate what they feel they have found? More than that, what they feel the doctors associated with the ministry have not identified? I mean, are we going to have some balance in the so-called private testimony or evidence from the medical practitioners, or are we only going to hear those who have worked for the industry or in the Ministries?

Mr. Ferrier: I know the doctors in Timmins feel the same way that the—

Mr. Lewis: I mean, if we are going to have some medical people who have dealt with the cases over time, what about doctors located in Elliot Lake who have been dealing with the men? Are we just going to have one particular Dr. Stewart from the Workmen's Compensation Board who won't give the x-rays to the men after he has dealt with them? Is that who we are going to have? Well, okay, we leave it to you, but I think it only fair to say to the—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is not my decision, let's make that very clear.

Mr. Lewis: How is it not your decision? You are the minister and you are bringing them.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right. My estimates are before this committee. You ask the questions of the committee, not to me.

Mr. Lewis: Well, on what basis are you bringing experts? How do you judge experts? For me, the experts are the doctors who have been dealing with the men, not the doctors you choose to choose.

Mr. Laughren: The committee didn't decide who was—

Mr. Lewis: Well, the committee didn't decide it and as far as I am concerned, I think you should offer warning to the people you are bringing that they may not be regarded as experts.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I offered that suggestion. I am prepared to do it because I want to get to the bottom of it and I want to do the best thing possible for the men who work in those conditions. You want doctors? Just say it and we will have them here.

Mr. Lewis: I am sure you wouldn't mind others who are also authoritative in the field. Is that a fair assumption I can make?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is not up to me to make that decision.

Mr. Lewis: No, no, but you're making the decision about whom you will choose from the Workmen's Compensation Board—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I made the offer.

Mr. Lewis: —and occupation. That offer—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We already have the experts here. If you don't want them just say so.

Mr. Lewis: All right. On that offer of certain experts, you answer us the question: Do you object to having other people in the field?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You have to take it to the committee, not to me. You know the rules of this committee like anybody else.

Mr. Laughren: We didn't decide what experts you're bringing in.

Mr. Lewis: Well, the rules of the committee are—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Okay, then say you don't want them.

Mr. Lewis: The rules of the committee are being altered as soon as you move to the Workmen's Compensation Board and occupational health. They are outside the ministry. We appreciate the offer. We're asking whether you will allow other people outside to come before the committee.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's not my decision.

Mr. Martel: Let's see what the committee has to say.

Mr. Laughren: Well, Mr. Chairman, are you going to take it to the committee or not?

Mr. Lewis: There are some people on this committee whose hair would stand on end if they knew how the wire workers have been dealt with, including the member for Oxford (Mr. Parrott).

Mr. Martel: Let the committee decide, Mr. Chairman. We'll see where the objections come from.

Mr. Chairman: Frankly, I don't think this comes under the—

An hon. member: You make me sick.

Mr. Laughren: Why don't you put it to the committee? What are you worried about? Getting an honest opinion? Is that what you're worried about?

Mr. Chairman: I'm not worried about getting an honest opinion, not by any means.

Mr. Laughren: Then put it to the committee.

Mr. Chairman: What is the decision of the committee?

An hon. member: Why don't we wait until—

Mr. Chairman: You're talking about the minister's suggestion to bring in somebody from the Workmen's Compensation Board?

Mr. Lewis: Well, that's fine. Nobody objects to that.

Mr. Martel: We're not objecting to that.

Mr. Laughren: We're not objecting to that.

Mr. Haggerty: We're just saying that somebody from the Ministry of Health, environmental health section should come in.

Mr. Chairman: Right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll try to get somebody tomorrow. I said I would have somebody here to give the committee what they so wished—and give them all of it—and get some factual information from people who are completely knowledgeable about a very complex situation—people who are trained in that particular field.

Mr. Haggerty: You mentioned Stewart.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If it will break the rules of the committee then—

Mr. Martel: We're willing to go along.

Mr. Haggerty: I'm willing to hear anybody who comes in here and can give me some assistance, or give me some advice or, perhaps, from whom I can get some information I'm looking for, too.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, there is no reason in the world why those experts shouldn't come. We appreciate that. I am saying to you that this is the kind of field in which it is surely legitimate to have one or two others as well. I think the medical practitioners in the communities where the men work would surely be as well qualified to address this committee as those who are on the staff of the compensation board or the Ministry of Health.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: My own personal opinion is you have civil servants who are here; they are working for the government and are

prepared to come before the committee, answer your questions and give you the information. This I am prepared to provide. Not to enter a confrontation with—

Mr. Lewis: With great respect, Mr. Minister, we have not felt that the civil servants in the last three or four years, where it has involved the health and safety of the men, have performed up to par. Since we are dealing with something as new and difficult as silicosis and cancer from radiation, surely we should have some of the practitioners from the community as well? I don't think that is unreasonable to ask the committee to endorse.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think this is the route to take for this particular committee. I think you will agree with that.

Mr. Lewis: I think it is. If you are going to bring medical testimony here, which I quite accept, let us have—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are civil servants.

Mr. Lewis: Civil servants—let us have balancing medical evidence as well. If it is an honourable wish on your part to get some facts and get to the bottom of it, let us have some balance. Let us go tomorrow morning and Tuesday as well, obviously; maybe Thursday as well of next week. If we're dealing with silicosis and cancer why put parameters on it? Let's do it seriously.

Mr. Maeck: With great respect, Mr. Minister, I don't think this is the committee to deal with that.

Mr. Martel: Oh?

Mr. Laughren: That's fine.

Mr. Maeck: Of course it's not and you people know it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We're here to give information and answer questions. There are other kinds of committees of this Legislature.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, we've had 5½ years or six years of answers when, in fact,

the answers we were getting were blatant lies. We have eventually got our hands on the correspondence from your staff which justified our position. Do you want us to believe that?

An hon. member: Could you make it?

Mr. Martel: No, I don't. Do you want me to bring in the stuff tomorrow morning which will show the distortion of facts presented by your ministry to us? And then the actual correspondence from Inco which was written to you, and you people re-signed and sent on to us as an investigation by your inspectors—which was never conducted by your inspectors, but was written by Charlie Hughes of Inco? Do you want me to bring that in?

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, I have had the word from the whip that they're ready to vote upstairs.

Mr. Martel: Never mind.

Mr. Lewis: Would you agree, Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, that this may take more than one morning? It may take more than one morning. It may take more than the two hours on a Friday morning which is a kind of compressed time.

Mr. Chairman: Is the committee in favour of the minister inviting other civil servants to participate?

Mr. Lewis: Presumably we can go into next week as well with these people, if need be. You are not confining it to tomorrow morning?

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Chairman, we are doing a lot of talking and we are getting nowhere. Why not proceed as you propose tomorrow morning? Then we can carry on from there and make our decisions as we go along.

Mr. Chairman: We will adjourn until after the question period tomorrow.

The committee adjourned at 10:40 o'clock, p.m.

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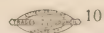
Standing Resources
Development Committee
Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Friday, May 17, 1974

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1974

The committee met at 11 o'clock, a.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

(continued)

On vote 2204:

Mr. Chairman: We will start the meeting.

There was some discussion last night about bringing in people from the Workmen's Compensation Board and the health authorities. I checked this out with the Clerk of the House and it is against the rules of the estimates committee. It has never been done. Mr. Lewis tells me this committee is the very same as discussion of estimates in the House, other than that the minister's officials, if asked, can be allowed to answer here in this meeting, whereas in the House they have to relay the message to the minister and the minister speaks on behalf of them.

It was a very generous offer of the minister, but I think we will have to overrule the minister too and say that we can't allow it. If you feel there's a need for this after, I understand you can make the suggestion in the House and we could have either a standing committee look into it at another time or a select committee look into the problem. But we can't allow the people from the Workmen's Compensation or the Health ministry to speak here this morning.

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): What you are saying, Mr. Chairman, is that speakers must be from the Ministry of Natural Resources only.

Mr. Chairman: The people taking part in this must be members of the Legislature, or if the minister wants to call on some of his officials within his ministry, they can answer. Other than that, no one may speak; just the staff, Mr. Minister.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): I wonder then, Mr. Chairman, since this is the natural resources committee, if the minister would give an undertaking to have these other people available at another time so that the

committee could delve into this matter? Would the minister give that kind of an undertaking?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do you want to repeat that?

Mr. Ferrier: This committee as constituted, according to the ruling we have had, states that we cannot hear these learned people today. Is it therefore possible to constitute the committee at another time as the standing committee on natural resources and have this matter brought before it by the minister? This would then permit him to bring whatever people were considered necessary and the whole matter could be studied in that fashion.

Mr. Chairman: I understand, yes, if we make the request to the House that we would like that, that this could be done.

Mr. M. Shulman (High Park): Apparently the doctors are here and they are sorry they can't testify. They have just told me that they would be happy to testify under the Health estimates.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, they could do it there.

Mr. Chairman: Not under the estimates but they could go and see the social development committee at a different time.

Mr. A. J. Roy (Ottawa East): If it was set up—

Mr. L. Maeck (Parry Sound): No, it could be done under the Health estimates. The doctors are with the Health ministry.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): If the estimates are held in committee.

Mr. Chairman: Oh, the doctors are within the ministry, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: If it is all in committee; if it is on the floor of the chamber you can't question them.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): We can adjourn this meeting and have them in as an estimates meeting.

Mr. Chairman: The clerk has just advised me that last night the member for Scar-

borough West (Mr. Lewis) wanted to bring someone from the mining area. I should make it clear that if this was brought before the Ministry of Health, it would just be the Health officials—

Mr. Martel: That's right.

Mr. Chairman:—within that ministry who would be able to speak.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Mr. Chairman: They would be under the same rules as we are that they couldn't bring in anyone from outside to speak.

Mr. Ferrier: If it is constituted as a standing committee on a Wednesday or at some other time, then anybody could be brought in to speak.

Mr. Chairman: But not in the estimates. Are we clear on that?

Mr. Ferrier: Would the minister be prepared to have this matter referred to the standing committee? I gather he was not against bringing them here today. They are here, so surely you are open to have the subject investigated and discussed. Why should we not then pass a motion to ask that officials from the various ministries involved, and other people, be made available to study the whole question of silicosis and lung diseases in mining.

Mr. Martel: Where is Dr. Paterson? He did a report for you.

Mr. Chairman: Would you like to have this discussed in Health first?

Mr. Martel: No.

Mr. Chairman: Then if you wanted it brought back—

Mr. Martel: No, that could be next September or October. Where is Dr. Paterson? He works for you. He has written a report on it. Why don't we have it here?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He worked for our ministry as a consultant, that's all.

Mr. Martel: That's all right, that allows him in the door.

Mr. C. A. Jewett (Executive Director, Division of Mines): Dr. Paterson has completed his work with us and he's no longer retained by the ministry. I think his work was completed in April or in March, if I am not mistaken.

Mr. Martel: Well, where's the report, if he completed his work in March? We've been waiting for that report. It was first promised to this committee in 1970 during the discussions on Bill 2, revisions of the Mining Act. We were advised then that Paterson's report would be ready that fall. You say he has left the ministry service as of March. Surely to God, that report should be ready by now.

Mr. Jewett: The report was turned over to the printers immediately. The latest advice we have is that we will receive it from the printers between May 22 and 27.

Mr. Martel: Oh.

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): That's convenient.

Mr. Martel: We'll have to keep the estimates going that long.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I've just got some procedural advice here from the clerk. He informs me that a request of this nature should be brought before the resources development committee of the Legislature. That request should be brought up there. I can assure you that my staff, if this is the request of the committee, will be made available.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, the hon. gentlemen are here today, but perhaps we could move the other two votes and then get a decision from the clerk on the matter. Then we can revert to it on Tuesday with the experts and deal with it in more detail.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In what way?

Mr. Haggerty: For example, you have your staff here today from the different departments of the Workmen's Compensation Board and the Ministry of Health. What I'm suggesting is that we can go to the other votes there and then revert to environmental health conditions or silicosis, say, on Tuesday. We're not sitting on Monday.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, there's no sense in reverting to them because we can't hear the gentlemen anyway under the estimates in this committee.

Mr. Haggerty: No, but we might get a clear decision from the clerk as to what—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, he's very clear about it.

An hon. member: We had it from the Clerk of the House this morning.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Chairman, there is a very simple method by which to solve this, which we use in the House all the time. All that the chairman of the committee has to do, with the approval of the committee, is go to the Legislature on Tuesday and ask for unanimous consent of the House to have the people whom the minister suggested last night come before the committee. Unanimous consent of the House supersedes whatever rule alteration there may be. That's why we have something called unanimous consent.

Since we are all agreed—it was the minister's suggestion—that the doctors should come, and since the chairman can make that recommendation, the House would obviously give unanimous consent and we can proceed on Tuesday with the doctors. What's the problem?

Mr. Chairman: I understand they can do that at a different time, but not in the estimates. The estimates, as I understand from talking to the clerk—

Mr. Lewis: Anything can be done with the unanimous consent of the House.

Mr. Haggerty: This is part of the House operations.

Mr. Lewis: We have the right to alter the rules. Any rule is subject to alteration with the unanimous consent of the House. I'm saying that this is important enough to have unanimous consent sought. If unanimous consent is not sought, then I wonder what the motives are.

Mr. Haggerty: Whatever is done in this committee goes back to the Legislature for approval anyway, so the matter can be raised again on the floor.

Mr. Chairman: We'll check into it and see, but I did check with the clerk twice this morning, and this was the ruling. You weren't here when we started—

Mr. Lewis: With respect, the clerk doesn't run my life. The clerk simply interprets the rules that are there. But all rules are alterable with the unanimous consent of the members. Look, are we serious about looking into this matter? The minister made a serious suggestion last night. I'm just giving the obvious route to making it possible.

Mr. Chairman: We can set up a committee to look into this if this is what the members want.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: But from what I understand, we're not supposed to do it when we're doing the estimates.

Mr. Martel: Oh, to heck with Rod Lewis!

Mr. Chairman: Well, in all fairness, if we go off on this—the way I understand it, we have so many days to get through all estimates.

Mr. Lewis: That's true.

Mr. Chairman: And what's going to happen with the other estimates?

Mr. Haggerty: We don't want to get an hour and a half on the Health estimates. We've got to be careful on that this year.

Mr. Lewis: Oh, this is—

Mr. Chairman: But we can go through it and have the people from the Ministry of Health when we're going through the Health estimates.

Mr. Lewis: Oh, come on! Come on, now!

Mr. Chairman: Or we can go back to the House and ask for a special committee to look into it, or a select committee, as I understand it.

Mr. Martel: Who wants a select committee?

Mr. Chairman: This committee can look at it at another time, if you want to make it an order in the House.

Mr. Lewis: How is it that the miners of Elliot Lake are forever expendable? I mean, when do we come to grips with all of this? I was kind of relieved when the minister suggested what he said last night. Sure, we would like other doctors to come and that may not be permitted. I understand that that's what happens. But the Minister of Natural Resources made a suggestion that would at least allow us to get medical opinion on a serious matter. Somehow we are creating a situation where that isn't going to occur and if we can't have—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sure it will.

Mr. Chairman: It can occur under a different committee, but not in the standing committee on estimates.

Mr. Lewis: Then I would like to have a motion come from this committee or an undertaking from the minister that in the Legislature this week a request will be made to have a standing committee struck to meet immediately, not six months hence.

Mr. Chairman: You can make that request.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I can make the request? Any member of the committee? Isn't there a resources committee of the Legislature? This is it here. I could make the suggestion—

Mr. Lewis: This isn't an estimates committee; this is considering estimates, but this is the standing resources committee, isn't it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, yes.

Mr. Martel: Sure it is.

Mr. Lewis: Well, then, what's the problem?

Mr. Chairman: We could take Bill's suggestion if you want to.

Mr. Maeck: You have to make a request to this committee that we meet to discuss this one item and not take the time out of the estimates. I think this is what we are talking about.

I think it is to the advantage of the members of the opposition if that happens rather than to take, let's say, two or three days discussing this. It is going to come out of your time, when you are examining the estimates.

Mr. Lewis: I don't care how we do it. We'd even relinquish estimates time because it falls within the estimates. I would truly like to have a serious discussion on Elliot Lake and the problems that are involved with medical doctors present.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think we share that concern too. Since the procedures are set up and this is a resources committee, then my feelings would be, let's get on with the estimates, clean them up and immediately go into the other issue.

Mr. Haggerty: I think that's a fair assessment the minister has put forward here and I think we should go along with it. He's willing to meet after the estimates are over with and I think this is what we want. We want a clear understanding of the problems that exist.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If we can clear this up today, we'll get on with the other things Tuesday morning.

An hon. member: Sure.

Mr. Chairman: Are we in favour of this suggestion by the minister then, that we clean up the estimates and then make a motion in the House that we hear the people from the Workmen's Compensation Board?

Mr. Martel: We don't need to go to the House for that.

Mr. Chairman: I think we do.

Mr. Martel: If it is a standing committee you don't have to go to the House for permission to meet. What are you talking about?

An hon. member: There is a standing committee meeting on Wednesday.

Mr. Martel: Standing committees determine their own agendas.

Mr. Chairman: I understand from the clerk that on Wednesdays we can meet, and every Wednesday.

Mr. Martel: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And this would be the first matter of business.

Mr. Chairman: And this would be first.

Mr. Martel: Just to sit concurrently with the House, that's all.

Mr. Lewis: So if we wanted to sit concurrently with the House it would be necessary to get special dispensation?

Mr. Chairman: Permission from the House.

Mr. Lewis: But we could sit on a Wednesday to discuss—now alas, Mr. Minister, because of the way it is working out, it is utterly possible to preclude discussion from this item in the estimate. But obviously it would be preferable were we to have the doctors present, and that perhaps will have to be additional. Can we ask that that motion be brought—that the intention be brought to the attention of the House on Tuesday?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sure.

Mr. Lewis: So that everybody understands that that's what is intended.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We've got it straight now?

Mr. Chairman: That we meet on Wednesday to discuss this?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, this is the first matter of business for the resources committee of the Legislature.

Mr. Lewis: And that that begins this Wednesday.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This Wednesday, yes. I don't know the time on that.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Chairman, I would have to object to that beginning this Wednesday. We have a very full meeting in the public accounts committee that day and there are a number of members who are members of both committees. I don't think we could do it this way.

Mr. Chairman: Can we leave it that if we can set it up, then, the following Wednesday? It will probably give the Workmen's Compensation people time. I think it is not fair to bring them in on a minute's notice.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think anyone wants to delay it.

Mr. Lewis: We will always have competing committees on Wednesday, won't we?

Mr. Allan: Not necessarily. I think that public accounts are meeting at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning for a full day. I would like to be at both committees, and other members here who are members of both committees.

Mr. Lewis: I know Mr. Ferrier will as well, I'm sure.

Mr. Ferrier: And Bud.

Mr. Lewis: Bud, yes. Okay. As I understand it we have a commitment that the resources development standing committee will constitute itself to hear what amounts to medical opinion on discussion of silicosis and related diseases in the Elliot Lake area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think my staff, along with the staff of other ministries, would be there to appear before the resources committee.

Mr. Haggerty: Not particularly Elliot Lake; there are other areas.

Mr. Ferrier: Not just Elliot Lake.

Mr. Lewis: All right, to all of these, but primarily in mining health.

Mr. Haggerty: In the mining industry.

Mr. Lewis: It is, I hope, understood that when we are constituted as a standing committee dealing with matters other than estimates, it is possible for other members of the public to have access to the committee as well. It would then be possible for us to

ask one or two or three of the medical practitioners to present positions or be in attendance. It would be possible to have that.

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, you had better be a little careful how far you go and which way. You'll have the companies wanting to present evidence and you'll be into a full-fledged inquiry—

Mr. Lewis: Why not?

Mr. Allan: —the first thing you know.

Mr. Lewis: And why not?

Mr. Allan: I don't think we should go that far at this time.

Mr. Chairman: We'll check into that and see.

Mr. Martel: Let them die. Let them die, Jim. You're not there, let them die.

Mr. Allan: I object to such remarks.

Mr. Martel: I don't care whether you object or not.

Mr. Chairman: This is unparliamentary.

Mr. Martel: I really don't care.

Mr. Chairman: Order please.

Mr. Allan: If you want to use that kind of language, why don't you go out and—

Mr. Martel: You want to use that kind of watered down approach.

Mr. Chairman: Order please.

Mr. M. C. Germa (Sudbury): How many people do you want to throw in the garbage can? How many more?

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Laughren: Jim, there is a plant in your riding that could be investigated too, as a matter of fact.

Mr. Germa: You are always pouring syrup on troubled waters.

Mr. Allan: Surely we are gentlemen enough to speak without—

Mr. Martel: Never mind the gentlemen nonsense.

Mr. Allan: Oh, well I would be ashamed.

Mr. Chairman: Order please.

Mr. Lewis: I see your intervention as a calculated effort to suppress truth. That's how I see it.

Mr. Allan: I'm not suppressing the truth.

Mr. Lewis: I know that you are a past master at handling the committee, but if you want a serious investigation into silicosis, cancer and other health hazards in the mines, and we have a standing committee, then you don't start providing boundaries for it.

Mr. Allan: I want to know at which time I can believe you.

Mr. Lewis: Well, you can express your own opinion.

Mr. Allan: I was listening to you—

Mr. Lewis: You can express your own opinion.

Mr. Allan: I just listened to you say that it's probably not possible—

Mr. Chairman: Order please.

Mr. Lewis: Not before the estimates committee. We can't. Obviously you are going to prevent us from bringing outside people in before the estimates committee, Mr. Chairman. But if we had the standing committee on resources development look into health hazards in the mining industry, then everyone has a right to appear who has some expert evidence to give—doctors and companies both. And unions. And why not have a serious public examination of it?

Mr. Allan: Well, I think before you—

Mr. Lewis: We are expanding Rio Algom and Denison. There are people dying because of the conditions in those mines.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. If you want we may have a meeting on the Wednesday prior to this for half an hour or so, to sort out who we are going to bring in. In the meantime, I'll talk to the Clerk of the House to get a ruling and see if we are not going off too far afield. I'm sure we are all interested in getting this cleared up, but we are not accomplishing too much here right now, only an argument.

Mr. Lewis: I don't know what you have to do to get anyone to do anything.

Mr. Chairman: We have agreed that we will meet—

Mr. Laughren: Why are you so insensitive?

Mr. Chairman: —a week from Wednesday. In the meantime, if we want to meet for half an hour and discuss who we are going to see, that's perfectly all right too.

But in the meantime, I think we should get on with our estimates here.

Mr. Laughren: You guys sure close ranks, don't you?

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, I think we are intelligent men sitting here and I think in the first meeting or so we can sit down with the different department heads here and do a little probing this way. I think from there on we can draw our conclusions and then go to the public. This party is not prepared with the medical evidence to support any hearing next week here before all the professionals. I think we would have to have time to prepare ourselves for it.

Mr. Chairman: That's fine.

Mr. Lewis: Certainly. I'm not suggesting what order they come in, but that others come.

Mr. Chairman: We don't have to do it all on one particular Wednesday, if we have to go back—

Mr. Lewis: That's right. We can get permission to sit concurrently with the House. I remind you that there are doctors in Elliot Lake, doctors in Sudbury, and there is extraordinary evidence available to this committee and the committee should ask for it.

Mr. Allan: I think the committee when they sit should decide what they do.

Mr. Chairman: Fine.

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): Let's go on with the estimates now.

Mr. Chairman: Where did we leave off last night?

Mr. Ferrier: I had another item that I wanted to deal with and then we will probably come back to this whole field again.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Allan left off last night.

Mr. Ferrier: The subject I wanted to deal with—

Mr. Chairman: Was Mr. Allan the last speaker?

Mr. Haggerty: That's right.

Mr. Chairman: Just excuse me a minute—Mr. Allan, were you finished with your comments last night?

Mr. Allan: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: I think perhaps I would be prepared to yield to the member for Sudbury East.

Mr. Martel: Thank you, Bill. I have a number of topics, Mr. Chairman, that I want to speak about. I guess there is no better place to start than Elliot Lake. And there is no better place to start than the minister's two statements. In fact, I am going to go back a little farther with you, Mr. Bernier.

Last night I suggested that there was so much collusion between the industry and your department. Of course, you denied all this. I'd like to remind you of some of my correspondence in the past years which indicates that occurs frequently so we don't get any more of the nonsense we got last night from you, that we're radical and you people are responsible.

I would remind you of the letter addressed to Mr. Falkowski on Sept. 17 re the roaster department and the same letter written by Charles Hughes, the superintendent of safety for Inco.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: What year was that?

Mr. Martel: It makes no difference; 1970.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Let the record show that it was 1970.

Mr. Martel: Let the record show it was 1970 and let the record show at the same time there was a witch-hunt, the likes of which was never seen, to find out who was getting this information out. This is just one of four or five I wanted to remind you of. That was occurring in 1969-1970-1971 and there is nothing to suggest it isn't going on today.

I won't quote these letters but they are identical except one word was changed. It was changed from the government's monitor to—and Allan Lawrence rewrote this—our monitor. Charlie Hughes said "the government's monitor."

That was an investigation of a very serious situation which resulted in 165 men being disciplined. Instead of your staff protecting them, there you were pretending you had had an investigation done when it was Inco's report which was the investigation.

When you come to me with the nonsense "We rely on our inspectors" I made the point last night that all the expert evidence—and it's the reason our leader wanted other doctors brought in—which has been presented in the past has always been presented in favour of the company, by your officials, by the companies themselves and by their doctors.

We've had to fly by the seat of our pants time after time to get conditions rectified in the mines and the smelters because there has been no help from this ministry, from the medical people—except for one doctor, Ernie Mastromatteo—and certainly nothing from the company or companies.

There isn't a person in your ministry who can deny it. I also remind you of the drinking water situation in which for 2½ years Mr. Falkowski and I were called liars. We didn't know what we were talking about. I can remember bringing it before this committee and being told about it. Yet there was medical evidence. The Ministry of the Environment, your ministry and the Ministry of Health exchanged correspondence. Interestingly enough, there was medical evidence to substantiate our claims and it is in this correspondence. I want to tell you the secretary who was responsible for sending that in error no longer works for the ministry.

Once again, despite medical evidence to substantiate our claim, despite the fact we were flying by the seat of our pants, we are able to get the new drinking water system at Inco only because some secretary inadvertently sent us the entire file, an exchange among three cabinet ministers.

For 2½ years this ministry, the Ministry of Health the Ministry of the Environment denied there was anything wrong with the drinking water in the Copper Cliff plant. It was even affecting the lives of the people in Lively who were on the same drinking water system.

You didn't help. Your ministry didn't help. In fact, it hindered. They hid in the bush.

I have one other one—an interesting exchange between mining inspectors over violations at Falconbridge and Mr. Redsell writes to Jim Hughes and says "We had better lay charges." I'll just quote one paragraph.

Both the hoistmen and the immediate supervisor would have to be summonsed. I do not know if there is a case against the company. I certainly advise the department should prosecute. The minister would have a difficult time in Parliament answering Mr. Martel if we do not prosecute.

What type of collusion do you call that, Mr. Minister? The minister chooses not to respond. What type of collusion do you call that?

I just put those questions as reminders as we talk about this one and about the second topic I am going to elaborate on at great length. I might tell the minister that in the second one we are not flying by the seat of our pants this time; we have one of the top specialists in this province working with us.

We won't be flying by the seat of our pants as we talk about industrial deafness in Sudbury, where there were 138 claims filed last year; 80 were accepted; 40 more are pending and only 18 have been rejected. Where the hell was your staff throughout that period of time, which resulted in 138 industrial deafness claims last year alone? Where were they?

We won't be flying by the seat of our pants, Mr. Minister, because we have got the documentation this time. And we won't have to play guessing games with you or your staff this time. It is interesting; it isn't even in the Mining Act.

But I want to talk first about Elliot Lake at some length. Then I am going to talk about industrial deafness at some length.

Mr. Minister, in 1961 your department, then the Ontario Department of Mines, issued a document called the "Report of the Special Committee on Mining Practices at Elliot Lake." On page 91 that document says: "In the Elliot Lake mines there is both a dust and a radiation problem." Well, heaven forbid—there is a dust and a radiation problem. And for the next 13 years you accepted the figures presented to you by Denison and, I guess, by Rio Algom as being the real facts with respect to dust counts in the mines.

My experience over a number of years of dealing with the mine companies would indicate to me that they are the last people you should believe. But not so this ministry. Of course, part of the reason is that too many officials in your ministry are originally from industry and their allegiance has never been shaken. Their allegiance isn't to the people of the province; their allegiance is to the mining companies. Well, 13 years later it hit the fan.

The minister himself was very cute in several statements he made with respect to this. When we asked the minister who conducted the tests at Denison and how many tests were conducted, the minister read a statement into the record on May 2—a very carefully worded statement too. The minister said:

The reply is that in 1973 over 1,500 samples for radioactivity were taken at

Denison Mines; 955 samples were taken at Rio Algom. There is a regular programme of taking dust samples in working places, which is carried out by the operators and reported to our mines engineering branch.

In fact, the minister was saying that Denison conducted its own testing programme and then gave him the figures which he never bothered to monitor. According to Mr. Davis last night, I believe, not once have you gone there unannounced in the same places and conducted your own testing, because the tests that were conducted last fall were a farce. When the federal people went in, and I think the provincial people accompanied them, the tests were an absolute farce. The mines were watered down for two full days before them, and six hours before the federal and provincial people went in they shut off the crushers. That's the type of testing we have done with respect to determining if the monitoring by the two companies is valid.

Well, Mr. Minister, I am not sure what one uses for language on this ministry to emphasize the need for the ministry to do its own testing unannounced and at any time of the day or the night. It just never responds to that sort of request.

We've a long history in Sudbury of gas tests being taken. At first, the company did the testing and the company is very sly. When you have a south wind in Sudbury you know exactly where the gas is going to be in the plant, so you relocate the monitor in the opposite direction. The same thing applied at Coniston. When you had a north wind you moved the monitor around so that you got low readings. The men were well aware of that. Over the years I brought it up over and over again. The monitor was shifted around from place to place so that you wouldn't get the readings.

Even with respect to mining inspections in Sudbury, International Nickel and Falconbridge have always known when the ministry people are coming. That's to give them advance notice so that they can prepare the tour. I'm not sure what one prepares for when mining inspectors are coming in to do their job. Is it to prepare by cleaning up? Certainly. That is what it's all about. You get it nice and clean.

I remind you of the first question I raised in the Ontario Legislature. It was with respect to an inspection in a coal plant where the union approached me on a Sunday to indicate that the men were working around the clock in the coal plant. I suggested to the then chairman of safety and health, Mickey

Maguire, now president of Local 6500, that he give me a telegram to that effect immediately. I asked the "White Knight" when I got into the Legislature whether or not there had been an inspection of the coal plant. He didn't know the answer but he came back a couple of days later and said, yes, there was on Dec. 18 or 19. I asked for the findings and they were immaculate.

How did Inco know to clean the coal plant two days ahead of time? The reply of the Minister of Mines of the day was that you don't want us to have the plants cleaned at all. What a lot of garbage! We just want the mine inspectors to see the conditions that men work under every day. That's not too much to ask of this ministry or it shouldn't be, but obviously it is. His further reply was, "We have to notify the company ahead of time so they can prepare for the inspection because they're large holdings. They're a big operation." We wouldn't want to go in and surprise them and find something that was amiss.

The same thing applies to Denison. Over 13 years, after a warning in your own ministry, in a report presented by your ministry, you did absolutely nothing. The second statement was last night. The minister gave a lovely statement about 53 silicosis cases and 20 pneumoconiosis cases up until 1972. The minister's officials again were playing a cute game. As I understand it, up until the legislation was changed with respect to silicosis, industrial deafness and so forth within the last year, if you had an industrial disease like pneumoconiosis or silicosis or industrial deafness, you remained in the same area of work. Despite the fact they knew you had silicosis, you did not establish a claim. In other words, there was no pension being paid.

Interestingly enough, the minister's figures terminated at that date, 1972. They didn't indicate the number of claims that we understand have gone in since the change, which number, I believe, at least 109. The minister again played the game because he knew that for those claims there were no pensions being paid until they left the area where they were exposed to silica dust or they left the area where there was industrial noise sufficient to bring about industrial deafness. It was a cute statement. Before this estimate is finished, Mr. Minister, I want to know how many claims have been established for silicosis up to today—not the 1972 figure which you quoted last night, but today's figure.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will get that for the hon. member.

Mr. Martel: Good. We will find it's slightly more than 52; in fact, quite a significant amount more than 52.

Mr. Minister, about three or four weeks ago I attended a meeting in Elliot Lake and your mine inspectors were there, five of them. I am not sure where two of them have been for the last two years because according to the Act their names must be posted in the mines. One of them has been there for a couple of years; his name hasn't even been posted or hadn't been up until that meeting. One wonders why.

Another thing one wonders: In that two years, what did he discover? I have a list of 60 complaints which we are going to discuss at some length. Did he discover any of these in the two years he was there? And if not, why not? I suspect the reason he didn't is because he went in wearing blinkers.

You can't tell me that in two years, if he were doing his job—and there were two of them—that he wouldn't have found some of these conditions. The minister really isn't going to expect this committee to believe that. The minister's Tory friends might out of embarrassment, but there are others of us that won't.

It was a very well-conducted meeting. The minister's staff says 300 men were present. I checked it out more recently. That hall has a seating capacity of at least 500. The chairs were filled and there were people in the balconies in that hall. The figure I have been given is at least 500 to 700 men.

The interesting thing about the meeting was the way in which it was conducted. There was nothing rowdy about the meeting; I am sure Mr. Davis will verify that. There was nothing irresponsible, nothing other than each man expressing his concern about the conditions he worked in day after day. It voiced the exasperation of these men as they have gone to management time after time after time to get improvements, and with the bullheadedness of de Bastiani and company in failing to make even the most fundamental changes, like providing a latrine.

In fact, the most interesting story came that night. One of the men couldn't leave his work to go to the bathroom so he used to climb up and sit adjacent to the conveyor belt and that is where he relieved himself. He summed up his story by saying, "If we get a dirty hydrogen bomb some day, you will know why." It was comical, if it wasn't so serious. You can't even get a latrine. In fact the complaint forms of the union to the company were presented to Mr. Davis. For

something as minimal as that the company's response was: "They aren't necessary." I don't know how one makes inroads with Denison.

The complaints came out that night, and as I say there are approximately 60 of them. I am amazed that—Mr. Weeks, I guess it is and the other mining inspector didn't find any of them. I am going to go through them rather quickly.

The first complaint dealt with the panel roadway: "Too dry and too much dust." Now, that raises the point that Mr. Davis expounded on last night and the hon. member for—

Mr. Lewis: Welland South.

Mr. Martel: Welland South. Too much dust. One would assume that a mining inspector occasionally walking through there—just occasionally—might see that there is so much dust that it is difficult to drive the equipment. But no way, no way.

The second complaint—and you are going to notice that most of these deal with dust and smoke—the second complaint: "ST8 smokes too much. Operators complain eyes, nose and chest burning." Well, a mining inspector occasionally doing his job might find that it is gaseous down there. He might find it is dusty if he were down there. That is, if he went beyond the elevator shaft. My information is that most mine inspectors don't; and that is in talking not only to the miners at Elliot Lake, by the way, but to the miners at Falconbridge and Inco and in just about any place going.

The third complaint: "Operators complain can't see in 22201-22204."

The fourth complaint: "Trainer seat on ST8 not safe for trainee or operator in case of a runaway machine."

The fifth complaint: "ST2 S-tram, trainee seat too close to the yoke. Could cut off legs of a trainee." And they have complained to the company.

The sixth complaint: "20 grizzly not safe. Jeeps and Unimogs do not stop. They proceed uphill at the same time as the S-tram." In other words, if any of those pieces of equipment had a faulty brake, they would start back down on top of everyone else, because I understand there is just one long grade there, and they would just pile right into them. There is no place for the men to jump for safety purposes.

But they have this line of equipment that runs up and down the mine. A tremendously safe place! I am sure that if one were to

check the statistics with respect to the safety record at Denison and Elliot Lake, one would find them overwhelming. I can recall spending 3½ months in the Workmen's Compensation Board hospital, and half the people there were from Elliot Lake. Of course, that was back in 1958, 1959 and 1960 when, regardless of the cost in human suffering, they were getting it out—wide open.

The seventh complaint: "24209 panel misfired round, was mucked out. This is not a safe procedure." This, as I understand it, is where some of the dynamite fails to go off and they muck it out thereafter, without being taught or advised as to how one goes about removing it safely. They do that regularly.

Mr. Haggerty: As long as the caps were not in the charge.

Mr. Martel: It's too bad we couldn't get the Minister of Natural Resources mucking out some of that—just once. I am sure he would have the procedure changed forthwith if he was there with his little mucking shovel, knowing that at any instant he could hit a stick of dynamite. I am sure that procedure would terminate. Don't you, Mr. Minister?

The eighth complaint: "Three other rounds were misfired and mucked and the men were not briefed on the safe procedure of doing so." You go in, boys, and take your chance; if you get your head blown off, that's okay. It's all in the name of production.

No. 9: "26 panel—bad ventilation—explanation will be given." And I am sure Mr. Davis has the explanation as to what happened. Interestingly enough, many of the tests are conducted in front of the ventilation shaft. At Denison they run around with their little pieces of equipment and take samples in front of the ventilation shaft. I am not sure, but I don't think that would be the intake either.

No. 10: "24 panel [they call them panels, but they are levels]—no visibility—ST8 only."

No. 11: "3096 panel roadway from 2 shaft to 24 panel—too much dust, smoke at start of shift—burns eyes and chest.

No. 12: "26 panel—no visibility . . ."

No. 13: "Too many machines operating on the one panel" [causing too much gas].

No. 14: "Poor scaling in headings. . . ." Most accidents in mining, as I understand it, are as a result of materials falling from above. And here we have men who are complaining that the scaling operations are bad.

It's too bad the mining inspectors don't

discover some of this once in a while. I'm not sure what they are paid for. Are they public relations men or what? Or are they mine inspectors? I suspect they are PR men.

No. 15: "Poor maintenance on machine..." That was when they tried to get them improved or if they didn't have brakes. Once the men get out on the highway they themselves are responsible for the equipment. Many of them don't have brakes, and they keep bringing them in for repairs and they don't get repaired and they are sent out with the same piece of equipment, signed, day after day, after day by the operator that it is unsafe. It is never changed. Months of it on end.

16: 26 panel signs erected stating S tram and MTT mucking to proceed with caution, Jeep and Unimog do not stop. [That's safe.]

17: 9671 JDT travelling in own smoke—burns eyes and chest...

By the way, each one of these complaints was registered by different men and each got up at the meeting to explain the complaint in detail. We are not talking about one or two disturbers. Of course, that is what we will get, one or two irresponsibles. That's what de Bastiani says, that they are just a couple of troublemakers—faces in the crowd, Allan—that cause some irritation.

Mr. Lewis: The same faces.

Mr. Martel: The same three.

Mr. Lewis: From St. Andrew-St. Patrick to Elliot Lake, they move around haunting the minister.

Mr. Martel: It goes on:

18: Trainee's seat on JDT not safe in 32 panel.

19: Told by supervision to haul powder with no canvas in box of truck.

I understand this is a violation of the Mining Act. But one doesn't worry about violations of the Mining Act because the mines inspectors never lay charges. They don't have the ultimate responsibility. That rests with the minister, and he never gets around, nor did his predecessors get around, to laying charges. Even when they have violations like those presented by Mine, Mill and the mine inspector says, "Lay charges" the White Knight refuses to. One questions the ministry. Well, hauling powder around is not bad if you are not doing it. But if you are doing it, it is a frightening experience.

No. 20: "Fuel truck travelling during shift..." Again there is a problem. As I understand it, in most sensible mining, they would move that prior to the shift beginning, to avoid a collision which could lead to a serious fire and some fatality. There is always that danger in a mine, particularly during a shift, if you have got scoop trams running around and other equipment running around. There is always that danger of a collision. But they move it.

No. 21: "Jeeps smoke too much..." They've complained about this. You notice references to the smoke and the gas over and over and over. We are going to hear how good the ventilation is, of course, in a few minutes, I presume. The men don't know what they are talking about. They only work down there, so they wouldn't know what they are talking about. The mining inspector wouldn't know what they are talking about because he never gets around there either. The list goes on:

22. D6 operators complain of too much smoke.

23. Men operating roof bolters complain of too much smoke.

24. School stope has too much smoke.

25. Long hole in 24953, too much smoke. [Where is the ventilation?]

26. Long hole working in drift. S tram, MTT hauling to ore past setup, men working at 10 to 15 ft high. There is only one foot clearing. Long hole operators complain—not safe, drill steel could fall down and hit the operator or setup knocked down by heavy equipment and injure men.

27. Long hole stopes blasted should be wetted down every shift...

Mr. Davis told us last night they do wet everything down. It doesn't quite sound like it, does it? Again, they don't know what they are talking about, they only work there. I'm going to repeat that one: "Long hole stopes blasted should be wetted down every shift." I think, Ray, you were advised last night that this was done; they were watering everything down all the time. Well, they don't. "Ventilation travels—"

Mr. Haggerty: To the best of his knowledge. He didn't make the inspection himself. He was going by reports from the company.

Mr. Martel: Oh, but he always goes by the reports from the company.

Mr. Haggerty: They audit those reports.

Mr. Martel: They audit them but they never monitor them or check them out with some type of check which would contradict it. You wouldn't want to find something that was contradictory to what Stephen B. Roman gave you, would you?

Mr. Laughren: Certainly the minister wouldn't.

Mr. Martel: It goes on:

Ventilation travels through these working areas. Men working above these areas complain there is too much dust [that is the long hole] 28.

28. 24209 ventilation fan picks up smoke and dust—goes to area where school stope men are working and they complain there is too much dust and smoke.

Where has your inspector been? Where has he been over the last two years that he never discovered any of this?

As I understand it, Mr. Falkowski wrote a blistering letter recently; he was irritated at a response by Mr. Davis that there were never any complaints from the Elliot Lake miners to the ministry. The ministry had two men posted in Elliot Lake; it is surprising they couldn't find anything. I suspect they didn't look very hard.

There are some more. That was underground. Those complaints deal primarily with gas from the equipment exhausts. They deal primarily with dust which is the cause of silicosis and you will remember that this ministry has not conducted a test of its own in 13 years, despite the warning in 1961 that this was a hazard. This was a potential hazard and they didn't conduct a test.

We move to the plant. I am not going to put some of the complaints on the record because they deal with matters which I think have to be resolved between company and management, such as posting for hoistmen and so on, which would come under the collective agreement.

One is about cold water fountains in lunchrooms, also cold water near the deck—there isn't any.

"Chemical toilets closer to garages so personnel do not urinate in the area." That is where they do it because they can't get to a urinal. I guess Stephen, with all his subsidization by the federal government, couldn't afford a couple of chemical toilets.

Mr. Lewis: That is Stephen Roman.

Mr. Martel: Yes, pardon me!

Mr. Haggerty: There is no connection.

Mr. Martel: They have only funded him \$30 million or \$40 million; he couldn't afford a couple of toilets.

"Washrooms in leaching area." They are a disaster area.

"Ventilation is very bad all over in mill." Not in one or two places, all over.

"Lunchroom in area A for operators." They don't have a lunchroom. That comes under the Mining Act. It is spelled out. Where has the mine inspector been? Even if he can't see the dust and he can't smell the gas, you would think he would be able to find out there wasn't even a lunchroom area. With a little bit of luck he might discover that.

"GHO areas should be enclosed because of dust."

"Warming ovens be provided for lunches." By the way, this is interesting. Do you know how they warm their lunches if they are kept in for overtime? When they are heating the uranium in the ovens. It is a very safe practice, particularly when one considers the number of silicosis cases. One is not sure what the effect would be but that is where they warm them, right in with the uranium because Mr. Roman and Mr. de Bastiani can't afford a little hot plate or two. Again, one wonders where our friends the mine inspectors have been.

Plant surface: "Mechanics to do safety inspection on vehicles in mornings—not drivers." The drivers inspect their own equipment.

"All vehicles being used on public highway be licensed or with police escort." Because they are vitally concerned that the tires on many of the vehicles and the braking systems are not very functional. There was a man who worked as a fireman for one of the big mines in Quebec and he indicated—I am sure Mr. Davis recalls this well—that that mine in Quebec would not have tolerated for one moment the type of tires and the condition of the tires being used on the equipment up there.

It states: "All fires should be reported; some have not been, in the steam plant." There are a number of fires that were never reported. I'm not sure if a fire has to be reported to the mining engineer or not. Maybe we could get clarification of that. If there is a fire, is the ministry supposed to be advised of same?

It goes on. It goes on for the mill; it goes on everywhere. One comes back to the con-

clusion that, despite thousands of complaints to de Bastiani and company, despite warnings by your staff, in their own report in 1961, nothing has been done. My information is there are at least 107 claims that have been filed in the last number of months. I'm not sure how many were accepted. It's an indication that, after a warning from your own staff and putting two people on the job, you might as well have had a donkey there. We could have put him underground at least, and he might have died and we would have known something was wrong. You would go down and find out. Your men discovered nothing. You monitored nothing. You gave two or three answers in the House which were designed to give the impression that the issue which led to the wildcat was 15 cents. That was a very carefully documented reply. It might have been a catalyst in the whole thing, but the thing that kept them out was the absolute frustration.

I want to point out some of the frustration, if I can just find them here, of what goes on with respect to the number of men who have applied for compensation and the length of time. Tony Rugys, silicosis, S 9645253, claim for WCB, October, 1973, had to leave the industry. He had been seen by the advisory board on March 13, 1973. As of yesterday, there was no confirmation as to whether he has got silicosis or not. Armand Cloutier, S 9645263 requested claim on Oct. 31, 1973, but no decision yet six months later.

Another interesting case is loss of hearing, although when they submitted the forms the Compensation Board sent back silicosis forms. They're so used to sending back silicosis forms that when the men were claiming for industrial deafness the Compensation Board sent back silicosis case forms. That's been hanging fire. There is Archie Landry, silicosis—you'll notice his compensation number is S, which means silicosis—S 9617303. It's an industrial noise deafness, loss of hearing claim, but it was sent as a silicosis claim. He established claim, or got a number at least, on Oct. 2, 1973. On March 25, they were still trying to establish a claim for industrial noise, but the difficulty is in separating it from industrial deafness. That seems to be a pretty significant problem.

Then there is Joe Zurljan, silicosis, S9319180, Joe Roch, the president, last wrote the Workmen's Compensation Board on April 1, 1974, regarding Mr. Zurljan. A year ago, Mr. Zurljan had no problems. He was apparently healthy. He took sick in early 1973. He was sent to Sudbury for x-rays and was given

a 15 per cent silicosis rating. At present, he is in Princess Margaret Hospital, a terminal cancer case. Nothing showed up on his x-rays. I find that hard to believe. I really find it hard to believe that he had a chest x-ray every year and that up until last year there wasn't a thing that showed up—not even a cloud; then, within a year, he is rated as 15 per cent silicotic and now he's in Princess Margaret Hospital, a terminal cancer case.

One could go on, Mr. Minister. I have others. You say there's only 53. Well, none of these was in 1972; and I have five more, all silicosis. Your figures are a little out, Leo. I suggest you get them rectified.

What happened to those chest x-rays that for the last 15 years showed up nothing? Not a thing! You know, this ministry stands condemned on chest x-rays; and it stands condemned on cancer in the sintering plant in Sudbury. We were able to crack the sintering plant cases in Sudbury, no thanks to anyone from the Ministry of Health or to anyone from this ministry, but due to one Dr. Cecilioni from Hamilton, who took the time from his own practice to help the United Steelworkers in Sudbury.

There are now 35 or 38 cancer claims for the sintering plant in Sudbury alone, a plant, by the way, that was pulled down in 1962; I mention that because my friend put on the record last night that nothing had shown up since 1962. The sintering plant in Sudbury closed down in 1962, and it's only in the last two years that we've been able to establish the cancer claims.

Again, the help that was necessary did not come from the battery of experts the minister wants to bring before the committee. But for Dr. Cecilioni we would not have those men and their families at least having a claim for cancer today. They're not big claims either, by the way; they're for 50 per cent. You can never get a 100 per cent disability pension, despite the fact they remove a lung. That's never considered 100 per cent, although it's 100 per cent from earning your salary and 100 per cent from supporting your family. But you get a 50 per cent disability pension—and that's a high rating—for the loss of a lung. You find, as a result, that these men end up on the welfare rolls or on family benefits.

There are 1,000 industrial accident cases at the present time that aren't being paid by management, but who are in fact the recipients of family benefit pensions under the Ministry of Community and Social Services. The Workmen's Compensation Act is bogus

from that point of view. The pension is based on your physical disability. It has no relationship to your capacity to earn.

I would like to know where a man with a lung removed, whether by cancer or a variety of other ailments that make the lung virtually useless, can be hired. How is he going to support his family?

As one young man put it at a meeting in Elliot Lake: "I'm getting to hell out, because I have a wife and three kids, and my neighbour down the street, who is about my age, and has spent about 15 years there, is ruined. His kids will be deprived of a father who can take them fishing, who will be able to go out with them."

And he said: "I'll be damned if the job is important enough that I'm going to go in there and risk my future the way my friend has and deprive my wife and kids of a husband and father."

That's what we're talking about. And although the minister gets exercised and says to us that we get too excited or too emotional or too irrational, if his ministry and the health ministry had been doing their jobs for, lo, these many years we might not have 105 or 110, oh, God only knows how many men with silicosis who will end up, as my friend from Sudbury says, in the garbage can. They will get lousy, stinking pensions that aren't enough for them to support their families. They will end up on welfare and then we can have Tories running around the country saying, "Look at all the welfare bums" and decrying all the people who don't want to go to work for a living.

It never ceases to amaze me, as I said at the beginning, how we have to fly by the seat of our pants and maybe make emotionally-charged statements to get this ministry or the Ministry of Health to respond. I know we had to do it with the cancer cases in the sintering plant. In fact, the man who heads up that committee, one John Gagnion, an absolutely superb little fellow, his last two x-rays had spots on them. He knows it. He knows there is a good possibility he is running around with lung cancer.

Mr. Haggerty: It is a matter of time, isn't it?

Mr. Martel: He continues to battle, to try to bring together all the men who ever worked in that sintering plant for the proper type of medical. We have had some tremendous assistance from the health department since it was established.

Do you know what the stumbling block has been? Dear old mother Inco. Mother Inco can't supply the names of the men who worked in the sintering plant. It amazes me that a company that sophisticated, with that much expertise, can't supply the full list of men who worked there full-time and the mechanics, the bricklayers and the pipefitters who have worked in there over a period of months.

An interesting thing happened Mr. Minister. Last December, the United Steelworkers compiled a list, over and above the 500 names they had, of another 172 names and they presented it to the Ministry of Health. They said, "We would like these men tested." Inco said, "They didn't work in the plant." I wrote the Ministry of Health and said, "You can't have it both ways. If Inco couldn't tell you who worked in the plant, how in God's name can they tell you these men didn't?"

They were vitally concerned with their well-being. The union had put together 172 names and Inco said, "No, they didn't work there." On the other hand, they couldn't tell us who had worked there.

To the credit of the Ministry of Health and Stan Martin, the deputy minister, the 172 were given sputum tests and the x-rays were conducted recently in Sudbury. But the assistance from Inco? Well, they don't know who worked there.

It is a guesstimate by the union that there were over 1,000 regular employees in the lifetime of that plant and upwards of 1,000 of what they call transient workers. These are the fitters, the mechanics and so on who move in for two or three months at a time to make the repairs that are necessary. Inco couldn't supply more than 500 names at the most.

It has been a major confrontation, as my colleagues from Nickel Belt and Sudbury know. We met with the Workmen's Compensation Board over it, and it was a major confrontation to try to get the names. I said to the Minister of Health as I said to the Minister of Natural Resources, "Stop playing chicken with them and lay it on the line. 'Gentlemen, you give the names of every man who worked in the sintering plant or we'll go in with our people, we'll go through the files and charge the time, the cost, to the ministry.'"

That wasn't forthcoming, either, was it? One has to understand what we are talking about when we condemn this ministry for its total lack of supervision of the mining

industry, its continuous collusion with the mining companies, its willingness to accept anything Charlie Hughes says as being factual, and its willingness to accept just about any mine official's word. I am suggesting that anything that has to do with health and safety should be removed from this ministry, totally. The sooner, the better.

Mr. Laughren: We don't trust you any more.

Mr. Martel: One only has to recognize that at every meeting that goes on with Workmen's Compensation Board, the unions and the mine officials say the same thing. I read about the recent meeting in Sudbury, where again the men from Kirkland Lake said exactly the same thing: The company always knows when your inspectors are coming; the inspectors never go to the area where the men want them to go; they go where it's all nicely cleaned out and prepared.

The minister sits back, and he'll justify it, as we heard the "White Knight" do when he was minister and as we've heard this minister do for three years. It is just nauseating.

Anything that has to do with health and safety should be taken away from you forthwith—like yesterday, if possible—and put where it rightly belongs: the safety inspection under the Industrial Safety Act, under the Ministry of Labour; the testing programmes for health should be under the Ministry of Health, and the environmental conditions should be put into Environment.

I would strip this ministry of everything that had anything to do with mining safety or conditions that men work under. Their performance has been a disaster, a total disaster, as we'll come to—because I'm going to let my leader continue on the Elliot Lake thing—because we are going to come to the industrial death and document it very carefully and you will find that that has been a disaster as well. You stand condemned, Mr. Minister, if you allow it to go on and I suggest you should resign.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, if I may comment briefly, I have heard and seen the member for Sudbury East get emotional—

Mr. Martel: Yes, I said you would say I was emotional.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —and raise some wild claims and make general statements to the rest of the members of the committee. I think it is fair to say that when we have an industry employing 50-odd thousand people

in 100 separate mines you can't make general statements. You can't make an observation in one case and have a blanket of condemnation of the whole industry, of management, of staff and the professional people who are involved in the operation and the maintenance of that particular industry.

I think it is fair to say, and I support it wholeheartedly, that we have some excellent people in the professional field, be they management, be they doctors, or be they employees of the mines themselves. To have the member for Sudbury East make a blanket charge that management of this particular industry, that doctors who are involved in this particular industry doing these various tests, that the men working in my ministry are deceitful and irresponsible, I just can't accept that charge.

He goes on making it in specific cases, and I will agree that when you have this number of employees working in the environment that they have to work in, certainly there are going to be problems. We have an excellent staff which is constantly on top of the matter. We are as concerned, we are as sincere in improving the environmental standards and the health standards and the safety standards in any mine in Ontario as you are, and don't stand up here and say that only your party is interested because you are not. There are other parties here that are equally as interested and equally as concerned.

You leave the impression, regarding the various tests that we take, that the mine manager himself goes down and takes the various tests, makes the various changes, makes false reports and is deceitful and irresponsible.

I can't accept that, because there are very responsible people who do these tests for the mines, that are audited by my ministry. They, in essence, are fellow employees of the people they are checking the environment for.

Mr. Martel: Management has never looked at it that way.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Just to have a blanket condemnation on the entire industry and to say that all of your information is correct and it has general application on those involved in that very important industry, is entirely incorrect and I just can't accept it.

I would point out to you—and I am going to ask my executive director of mining to comment further on the complaints that were brought to our attention, the 60-odd complaints—as I assured the House and I will reiterate here again, every one of those com-

plaints is brought to our attention by the men and by the union, and this is a working arrangement we have with the unions in the Sudbury and the Elliot Lake areas. As those infractions or as those complaints come to our attention we take immediate corrective steps.

Mr. Lewis: Excuse me, Mr. Minister, who is your executive director of mines?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. George Jewett. Yes, I know you will ask what is his background?

Mr. Lewis: Is it the same Mr. Jewett who was assistant to the managing director of Northspan Uranium and Milliken Lake Uranium?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes it was.

Mr. Lewis: The same Mr. Jewett who was assistant to the executive vice-president of Rio Algom? The same Mr. Jewett who was involved as a construction manager at the Elliot Lake project?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right, a man with a tremendous amount of experience.

Mr. Lewis: And this man is going to tell us about the complaints of the miners?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He has a tremendous amount of experience, more than you've got.

Mr. Lewis: Who are you kidding?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Cut out the emotion.

Mr. Lewis: That is supposed to be the evidence that we should accept?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is the same old attack. You have used it time and time again.

Mr. Lewis: What are you saying? That the man who was responsible for the mines during the process of accumulation of the complaints is now going to answer the workers' complaints?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Who would you get, your friend from Sudbury East to do this job?

Mr. Lewis: Well, come on.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: What are you talking about?

Mr. Lewis: I don't mind. You can bring us other people. Give us Mr. Davis, the director of your mines engineering branch. I will listen to Mr. Davis. But don't tell me that the people who are directly involved in

management are going to tell the committee about the worker.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is the same old character assassination that you fellows always use.

Mr. Lewis: Oh come on! There is no character assassination.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is what you are doing.

Mr. Lewis: There is no character assassination. But on a point of order, Mr. Chairman. On a point of order. I am absolutely certain that Mr. Jewett is totally competent to talk to this committee about the way uranium mines work, about the priorities, about the production, about all of the matters related to marketing, etc. Fine. And I will listen to him and I will respect him. But you can't ask Mr. Jewett to talk to us about the complaints from his workers when he headed the mine. That is preposterous. It puts him in an impossible position.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Jewett will respond to those complaints that have been brought to our attention—

Mr. Lewis: Well, that is just absurd.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —and the action that we have taken on them.

Mr. Lewis: That is ridiculous.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You wanted to know that. The member brought it up and I want to respond to him.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Lewis: We are not asking you for the chairman of the board to defend himself. We are asking you what the ministry thinks.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I want Mr. Jewett to report on the action that we have taken, and the number of complaints that have come to our attention. He is an expert in the field and he is very competent to do so.

Mr. Lewis: I should think he is.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And I have every faith in his ability.

Mr. Lewis: I have faith in his ability, too, but he represents the opposite view.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You have used the same assassination that you used on the doctors who were involved.

Mr. Lewis: Now just take it easy. Mr. Chairman, I absolutely—

Mr. Chairman: I think we should let the minister finish his remarks. We let the hon. member finish his.

Mr. Lewis: I understand, but I really think that the minister is going just a little too far.

Mr. Evans: Sit back and listen.

Mr. Lewis: I am telling you that Mr. Jewett's competence is acceptable in all kinds of fields and I respect that.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Listen, listen for a few minutes.

Mr. Lewis: But surely you can't ask us to take that on this issue.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, to say that the complaints that we have before us, and I think the member was referring to the 60-odd complaints, are the total amount of complaints that were received is just not correct. We receive them on a daily basis.

Mr. Martel: That's not what Mr. Davis said in his statement in April. You are wrong again.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In an industry so complex and as difficult as this, so environmentally hazardous, there will be regular complaints from the industry.

Mr. Martel: You are wrong again. Davis said in April that there were no complaints from the union.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am talking about the industry in total.

Mr. Martel: You said Elliot Lake, the 60 complaints.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we are going to act on those and we are going to report on those.

Mr. Martel: You said you get complaints from there every day. Mr. Davis made a statement publicly that this wasn't the case.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And those reports are coming to us on a regular basis.

Mr. Martel: You should know more about it before you make a statement like that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And we have inspectors in the field who respond to those complaints and act on them.

Mr. Martel: You had better ask Mr. Davis if you are right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And we will continue. I would just like to point out that the safety record and the safety standards in Ontario mines are second to none in any jurisdiction in the world. I think we should make that very clear. We are an example. Certainly we are not perfect, and I will accept that. There is a lot of room to improve, but at today's standards we are on top of the issue and we are going to improve.

We know there are problems in specific areas. In the silicosis area where there is a silica atmosphere, we have to take steps and we intend to do. We will accelerate our concern and our efforts to come to grips with this situation and with many of the problems that the member for Sudbury East has brought to our attention.

I say to you about the charge that was made that we don't go underground in the Elliot Lake area to do personal inspections, over and above the hundreds of tests that were done, were audited and monitored by the operators of the mine, our inspectors did personal investigation underground. In 1973, this happened 28 times in Denison and 14 times at Rio Algom.

Mr. Martel: Tell us what they discovered and how many violations?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In 1972 we had 23 at Denison and 22 at Rio Algom.

Mr. Laughren: No charges have ever been laid in Elliot Lake.

Mr. Martel: How many violations did they find?

Mr. Laughren: What is the sense of investigating?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Martel: And the authorities won't lay a thing.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: To say that about our inspection and to leave the inference that we are not going underground to inspect, to audit and verify those reports is entirely wrong.

Mr. Germa: It was not an inference.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And that is the way you apply your general comments.

Mr. Martel: Out of their 28 trips, how many things did they find wrong?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is very irresponsible to take that attitude.

Mr. Martel: Tell us how many things they found wrong out of the 28 trips to Denison last year.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is very irresponsible.

Mr. Martel: Tell us how many violations they reported or how many complaints they made with respect to gas and dust from those 28 trips to Denison last year. You give us that figure.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do you have the figures, Mr. Davis, on that?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis (Director, Mines Engineering Branch): No, I am sorry, I haven't.

Mr. Lewis: No, they never have the figures on what you are expected to do.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Those, Mr. Chairman, are my brief remarks.

Mr. Martel: Yes, they are very brief. They tell us you did nothing.

Mr. Laughren: They indicate your concern.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier, did you have something?

Mr. Martel: No, I am not finished.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Jewett, do you want to comment on the inspections and the complaints and the various issues that our staff have been dealing with?

Mr. Jewett: I would like to comment on the events that have transpired since the last estimates last fall. I believe it was at the end of November that we received a delegation of the union from Elliot Lake who expressed in no uncertain terms their concerns about the health hazards in the mines at Elliot Lake. We discussed with them a programme which we are prepared to enact immediately to corroborate the situation as they presented it or establish what the facts were.

The programme, as I recall it that was outlined at that time, would be a complete medical examination, a lung function test, on all the miners in Elliot Lake. I think a commitment was made that we would make every effort to bring in the sputum technology and at least do a comprehensive sampling of the miners there. I think the view was expressed at that time by the doctors that this sputum technology is new. It is

technically a complex matter and there were probably not enough trained technicians available, nor would there be within a period of a year or more—I can't remember the exact date—to have every miner in Elliot Lake tested in this way.

We also undertook to arrange a programme to monitor over a period of months in a most complete way independently the working conditions and atmospheres in all of the working places at the mines. Following that, I brought myself up to date technically, if you will. As the hon. member pointed out, at one time I was associated with that area, but I didn't feel that I had been in any way aware of the current situation. I became aware of the fact that some new technology and new equipment were developing in terms of instrumentation to read particularly silica counts on a continuous basis.

There had developed in the industry some criticism of the instrumentation that had been traditionally used—namely, the konometer—not only in our minds, but in all other minds all over the world, and there were some doctors at that time strongly expressing the view that a konometer reading, while being perhaps an effective spot sample, was not adequate.

Accordingly, and because I thought that the commitment we had made to the industry was to establish a review that would be as independent and as acceptable as it possibly could be to all concerned, including themselves, I felt it essential to bring in somebody from outside the government who would, if you will, vet and audit and comment on the adequacy of the sampling techniques that we were going to use before we went into the ventilation survey. Accordingly, we contacted the Department of Health in Ottawa.

I think I've probably got that name wrong, but we contacted the health authorities in Ottawa, and were advised that Mr. Windish and Dr. Tanaguchi were probably the best available people they had there, with the greatest experience in this area. We had trouble in arranging for their time because these men had other commitments in other areas of Canada, which were pre-commitments, but we did secure from the federal government the release of these men from pre-commitments for two weeks. They did go into Elliot Lake and they did survey the ventilation procedures being used.

There has been some misunderstanding. There was no attempt at that time, nor was it ever intended, to make any pretence that the sampling they were doing was intended.

to be representative. What they were trying to establish, and I believe did establish, was that the techniques and equipment being used by the companies was, in fact, producing accurate samples.

Accordingly, arrangements were made and they went, over a period of a week in each case I think, and visited both mines. They calibrated the equipment used by the companies. They tested that equipment against their own. They took samples side by side and they compared the results.

Mr. Windish's report was received some weeks ago and it has been given the widest distribution. I made copies available to the union. I've even had requests from Ottawa as to whether the members there could have it, and we have released it as widely as we could. The indications are, I believe, that these authorities confirmed that the sample data being collected was, in fact, representative of the conditions at the point they had been taken. In other words, they said that the instrumentation being taken was accurate.

They recommended that further consideration be given to volumetric personnel samples, which are new units that have just been developed within the industry, I believe, in Ontario—or rather it's been modified from a unit that was recently invented in Europe—and they recommended that extensive use be made of volumetric sampling.

Accordingly, we have now made arrangements to have a team from the Ministry of Health, environmental health, go into Elliot Lake and make arrangements for a complete survey of every working place in both mines. The advance party of that team is now in Elliot Lake and they propose to begin work on May 27. It will consist of at least six people, plus two technicians, and my understanding is that, as was requested by the union and as we have insisted, this team—these two technicians, people from health physics, radiation authorities, Hugh Nelson from occupational health, a radial chemist—is not only going to take the results, it is going to take silicosis measurements, radon counts, aldehyde counts—all types of impurities that can be measured they are going to measure.

Furthermore, on the insistence of the union and on our insistence, this testing team will be accompanied by a member of the union. It is our instruction, it is my instruction, that every effort should be made to ensure that the samples as taken are representative of the working conditions in the areas where they are taking them. And that this is acceptable to the union representative.

Paralleling this, the Ministry of Health has completed lung function tests on over 900 of the miners in Elliot Lake. This is by far the largest proportion, I believe; I'm told by the doctors that some men didn't show up and they had been unable to contact them. But it is considered to be a most comprehensive survey, and the Ministry of Health is now proceeding to move a team into Elliot Lake to conduct sputum tests, particularly on all those men who they think might be particularly vulnerable. They will be done on the basis of a selected sample, and it may have to be extended. The only problem is going to be time in terms of the availability of trained people to extend the sampling.

It is our intention, as we communicated to the union, who again met with us in February, to communicate as widely as possible to everyone concerned the full results of both the doctor's lung function tests and the ventilation tests. It is my preconception, if you will, that the readings that have been taken by the companies are representative. But we are most anxious to have this particular survey establish that point once and for all.

I think this is basically what has transpired since the last estimates, and I can only assure the hon. member that it is certainly my intention and, I believe, the intention of my staff to get the facts on this as rapidly, as authoritatively and as acceptably as possible.

Mr. Martel: Right. Now I'd like to ask a few questions. But before I do, I want to make a statement. The minister says I make wild statements. Over the years, Mr. Minister, I have made what were always termed "wild statements." But as we continue to pursue those—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Statements of general application.

Mr. Martel: Okay—but as we continue to pursue them, one after the other, they've been cleaned up. The latest one was Falconbridge, where you intervened personally. But for three years nothing happened, except that you sent out instructions that Falconbridge didn't obey.

My point was and is that we have mining inspectors in the field and they never discover a thing. Which brings me to the first question I want to raise.

What did you do in the 13 years, from the time of the warning in the report in

1961 to when the situation became critical in November, 1973? How much was done to safeguard the health of the men?

Mr. Lewis: To put it another way, how do you compensate the men for the loss of life and for the present evidence of silicosis and cancer, while Rio Algom, Denison and the government did nothing for 13 years? That's where the problem of believing all this intervenes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Harold, do you have any comment to make on that at all?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: The statement has been made that we have been doing nothing about the situation in Elliot Lake for the last 13 years. As you are aware, and as we are aware, there has been a problem in the Elliot Lake area in regard to dust and radiation; and this has been in our minds all the way along.

Our engineers have been constantly after the company to improve this ventilation, and this has been indicated. At the same time, as I mentioned last night, I think, the exposure levels have been reduced from 12 working levels to eight, and in the last year they have been reduced to six. We are still looking at the exposure levels and if it's necessary we can lower it to four. There have been tests taken by the Ministry of Health during this period of time and this has been indicated by the minister in his statement. I think that's about all I have here.

Mr. Martel: When were the tests taken by the Ministry of Health?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: I'm not sure of the dates, but they were in 1966, 1967 and 1969.

Mr. Martel: Yes.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: They were in the statement.

Mr. Martel: After the warnings of 1961 there hasn't been all that much done, really has there? There really hasn't been a hell of a lot done.

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: There has obviously been a lot done as indicated by lowering the dust levels and the radiation levels.

Mr. Martel: Tell me why we have so many silicosis cases popping up then, if there has been lots done?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: As has been indicated before, it appears this all happened during

the early stages of the Elliot Lake boom times, from 1955 to 1960. Since that time there have been these improvements made which—

Mr. Martel: What is the length of time of exposure before silicosis appears? In the case of the sintering plant in Sudbury, which closed in 1962, the cancer cases started to show up in 1970, 1971, 10 years after the plant closed down.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would certainly think that is a question some technical person should answer.

Mr. Martel: Yes, sure.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't feel qualified to answer that question and my staff are not medical people.

Mr. Martel: No, neither do I; but you made the statement last night, Mr. Minister, and you should be in a position to back up your own statement. You read what somebody handed to you. I pose the question to you now that the cancer cases in the sintering plant didn't show up until 10 years after the plant closed down. A statement without some backup is useless to us.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think when the investigation of that particular operation is gone into by the committee, the experts will be able to provide you with all the type of medical information you require.

Mr. Martel: The minister also, in his statement, said that Mr. Davis had many complaints from Elliot Lake, even daily. Mr. Davis made a statement—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think I said in Elliot Lake. I said across the industry.

Mr. Martel: No, I was listening very carefully. Check Hansard. Mr. Davis made a statement some months ago that there wasn't a complaint from the Elliot Lake miners. That doesn't jibe either. I believe he made the statement in front of Paul Falkowski and a number of people that there were no complaints made by the Elliot Lake miners, and therefore he couldn't understand why they were suddenly so concerned. That's contrary to what you just told us, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm saying we received complaints from union members across the entire industry which are investigated immediately.

Mr. Martel: My question, Mr. Minister, is why—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It has just been reconfirmed to me that we've not received any complaints from the union in the immediate Elliot Lake area.

Mr. Martel: That's right, but you made the statement that you did. So you were ill-informed again.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I said across the industry. Don't twist my words.

Mr. Martel: No, you didn't. You check Hansard very carefully, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's the way you operate. You just listen and pick up what you want to hear.

Mr. Martel: I listened very carefully to your statement. Don't try to bamboozle me, Mr. Minister, it's not going to work.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Don't you try to bamboozle us.

Mr. Martel: You made the statement very carefully that Mr. Davis received complaints about the Elliot Lake area and these were looked into right away. You had better check Hansard just to recall.

On the sputum tests, I find some difficulty in understanding why it's so difficult. We met with the people from WCB over the cancer cases at Sudbury. I agree there is some time lapse between taking the sputum tests and the technicians being able to analyse them all because of the large number taken in Sudbury. But I find it difficult to accept that it would be a year—I think that's what Mr. Jewett said—before that could be achieved. My two colleagues and I met with people from the Ministry of Health, Dr. Stopps, and with the chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Board and his staff over the cancer cases in Sudbury and they indicated that there were some difficulties in getting them analysed, but there was not all that much difficulty in getting a sputum test taken.

Mr. Jewett: I believe that is correct. There is not as much problem in getting a sputum test taken, although the sheer number of people involved in Elliot Lake—approaching 1000—is a large task. The way these are taken they have to be done very carefully and by highly-trained people, and then the real problem is in the interpretation and the analysis of the results.

I can't pretend to even understand this matter, although I did discuss it with representatives of the Ministry of Health, I believe

it was last Thursday or Friday, and this was the opinion they expressed to me as I remember it now.

Mr. Martel: Another statement by the minister which intrigued me was regarding the fellow employees. These were the fellow employees that management was taking the tests on behalf of. In discussion with Gib Gilchrist, the area representative of United Steelworkers, he indicates to me he knows of no mining company that is as hard-nosed about safety as is Denison. I am sure the minister is aware of that. So don't say to me: "I have never known management in the mining industry to be so vitally concerned with the well-being of the men"; because the battle to get improvements, Mr. Minister, has been too hard and too long fought.

A genuine concern by management? Whether it be in Elliot Lake, or whether it be in Noranda, or whether it be in Copper Cliff or anywhere else, I haven't known the mining officials to be overly concerned about the health and wellbeing of the men. My experience is that they have been concerned about productivity, and that the cost of providing improved conditions has always mitigated against improving the conditions where the men work. Certainly it has been my experience in 6½ years here.

In other words, they have never taken the lead themselves without being prompted, pushed and kicked, and you know you had to do that at Falconbridge. You had to get tough and say to Falconbridge: "You clean up in 90 days or I will move in myself." This was after three years of warnings. Where did they demonstrate this great concern for the men? Tell me when Falconbridge developed that great concern? You had to, at last, intervene. And they weren't happy with your intervention. In fact they were very upset with your intervention. But they didn't demonstrate any vital concern for the wellbeing of the men, did they?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, I think what I was driving at is, the member was making general comments and casting a blanket condemnation on all management, all doctors, all people involved in the mining industry, and I don't think you can do that. Certainly, as I said earlier, there are specific problems and we will deal with them with the same gusto and the same enthusiasm as we dealt with Falconbridge.

Mr. Laughren: Oh no you won't.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I made that point clear. We are as concerned as you are with the en-

vironmental conditions and the health conditions and the safety conditions in every mine. There's no way we are going to shirk our responsibilities, no way.

Mr. Laughren: You had better not.

Mr. Martel: Let's get down to the nuts and bolts. Mr. Minister, you had to intervene in Falconbridge after three years of prompting. What were your mining inspectors doing then?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They were doing their job.

Mr. Martel: Were they? How many charges did they lay in those three years against Falconbridge?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will have to get those—

Mr. Martel: You haven't got a charge against them, you haven't got a charge against them. For three years they watched, they went in and tested—or they were supposed to be testing—until you finally intervened. Well where were your mine inspectors? What were they doing?

Mr. Laughren: The same as in Elliot Lake—nothing.

Mr. Martel: That's the frustration—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Laying charges is not the answer to improving the safety standards or improving the health standards. That is not the answer.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, if you threw around a handful of charges, if these mining companies knew you meant business, do you know what they would do? They would clean up. They wouldn't wait for the unions to make it hot enough that the minister would have to intervene personally. That's what we pay mine inspectors for, to discover the conditions which are contrary to having a decent working environment and ensuring that the health of the men is protected. That's why we have them, isn't it?

Mr. Laughren: They are all pussycats.

Mr. Martel: Is that why we have inspectors in your branch?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right.

Mr. Martel: Why is it, then, that over the years I have been here, the attack on Inco or Falconbridge has had to come from the

material given to me by the unions? Where were your inspectors during that time?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that—

Mr. Martel: They have conducted lots of investigations.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right. There are lots of other areas in the mines which have to be checked on a regular basis. You are zeroing in on one particular point—

Mr. Martel: No.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —with one or two companies. There is more to operating a mine than just the underground.

Mr. Martel: To men like you, Mr. Minister—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There are the safety conditions. There are equally tough conditions in the grinding room. The dust conditions in the grinding room are just as bad.

Mr. Martel: I am not talking about just underground.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are just as bad as underground.

Mr. Martel: I am not talking just about underground.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: To say our inspectors have been ignoring—

Mr. Martel: Ever since I came here my complaints have been about the safety and the health conditions. None of those men is like a cat; none of them has nine lives. They've only got one each. That's why I have continued to pound it over the years because I have not found—in fact the former member for Sudbury, on one occasion when I was in one of these discussions, said my charges were so serious I should be brought before a committee of the Legislature. I welcomed that. I wasn't about to back off then and I'm not about to back off now.

We pay mine inspectors to do a job; and you know we really shouldn't blame the mine inspectors, Mr. Minister. That's unfair. Do you know who we should blame? The minister; because ultimately the responsibility is on his doorstep. Most of them are pretty competent. If you said to them: "Okay, boys, go out and clean her up," they probably could.

But you've got to give them the signal and say: "Okay, anything you find wrong, clean

it up." But when I see the "White Knight" of Ontario's letters over the years, he covered up for the mining companies. I haven't had any since you've become minister because I'm not sure if the avant garde over there hasn't cleaned out all the people who might provide us with information. I wouldn't mind seeing your files some day to see how much of it continues. Maybe it doesn't; maybe it does. My suspicions are it still does, based on the three years with Falconbridge you were willing to put up with.

Your inspectors must have reported during those three years that Falconbridge wasn't moving ahead. They must have, but did you ever zap them over the drinking water? You had medical evidence. Nothing was done.

You can say my statements cover the waterfront and are a condemnation. They are. I have watched Dr. Hazelwood, who is the chief medical man for Inco, come down before the Workmen's Compensation Board time after time. Never once have I seen Dr. Hazelwood defend the employee. He is there with the company lawyer, and the safety engineer to try to ensure that the man doesn't get compensation benefits.

There was an interesting case I fought on behalf of a man by the name of Mr. Legault. Ultimately, after two years, we got it sent to an independent medical referee. What that means is you accept the independent medical referee's decision, which was agreeable. The man in Toronto—a specialist from Toronto; a dermatologist—appointed a doctor in Sudbury and we weren't supposed to get hold of this file but we did. The dermatologist and the doctor he appointed in Levack to check the man's condition when he was exposed to nickel, indicated that the more he was in contact with nickel the redder the rash covering his entire body became.

Do you know what Hazelwood's statement was?

Mr. Haggerty: He didn't have nickel itch, did he?

Mr. Martel: That the redness became less and less with exposure. You wonder why! We've got the report. We've asked the Minister of Health to not allow Hazelwood to appear on behalf of the company, particularly when he is the same doctor who has treated the man. We can't even get that.

You wonder why we are upset with the abuse of the men who work in the mines? It's so prevalent, so obvious, yet you continue to sit up there and say: "Oh, you make nasty statements about everybody."

My experience has been that the mining industry doesn't give a damn about the men. It doesn't give a damn about communities. We have watched it in the Sudbury area, the boom and bust: they hire 5,000 more and lay 5,000 off.

They have never indicated a concern, and throughout that entire period I know of no charges that your department has laid against any of these robber barons.

I have seen evidence to substantiate that the doctors work hand in hand with the industry. We know that many of the specialists in Sudbury now will not touch a Workmen's Compensation case because of the resistance they have to go through to establish those claims. Ask any specialist in the Sudbury area about the battle that Inco puts up against paying compensation. Neither the specialists nor the general practitioners want to handle compensation claims if they involve the mining companies.

That's the benevolent group you are talking about, Mr. Minister—wonderful gentlemen like Powis, who makes all the nice statements that you agree with—and yet, I guess, Noranda still doesn't pay a pension.

Mr. Ferrier: Not in the gold mines.

Mr. Martel: But we accept what old gentleman Powis says. He's the voice of the mining industry. These guys have been ripping stuff out of the bowels of the earth and making millions for these companies, which still don't pay a pension, in some instances and you want us to have faith in the interest that those companies display on behalf of the employees? You've got to be kidding. You can't expect us to sit here and be admonished by you because our statements cover the waterfront, because they do.

As I said earlier, and as Mr. Davis knows, in any place your mine inspectors go to a health and safety meeting with the Workmen's Compensation Board in attendance, the argument is always the same. Why don't you inspect without notice? Why don't you hammer them once in a while? But it never happens. Then you come down here and say: "Oh, you make nasty statements about my staff."

Well, Mr. Minister, I suggest that you instruct your staff to do the job they are paid to do out of the public purse of this province, and that's to guarantee the health and safety of the men in the mining industry. You might do that instead of admonishing us.

Mr. Chairman: Has anyone else anything to say on vote 2204, items 1 and 2?

Mr. Lewis: I have a lot. I listened very carefully to Mr. Jewett and the minister, and I hope it's recognized that this is but round one on Elliot Lake. We have just begun this morning.

Mr. Ferrier: Can we adjourn?

Mr. Martel: It's five to 1. There's no use starting a new subject.

Mr. Haggerty: I have other matters on the same vote that I would like to pursue, but I don't want to start right now though. It's nearly 1 o'clock.

Mr. Chairman: Do you want to go ahead for the next five minutes?

Mr. Martel: Let him take another couple of hours.

Mr. Chairman: Do you want to go ahead for another five minutes, Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, maybe I'll follow along the lines mentioned by Mr. Martel about the conditions in some of the industries in Ontario, particularly International Nickel Co. I happen to come from an area that also has the International Nickel Co.; it's the refinery at the city of Port Colborne.

I might say that over the number of years I have been here, there has been a better understanding between the employers and the unions and better understanding between the unions and the Ministry of Health. I think Elie will agree with me when I say that for the last two, three or four years the Ministry of Health has met any representation put forth by the unions, either Local 6200 or Local 6500 I believe in Sudbury. We have had some good sessions with Dr. Mastromatteo and the unions have been very happy.

But an important point was mentioned to me by one of the chaps. He said: "How come we can sit down and meet with the environmental health section of the Ministry of Health now and we could never do it before?"

I said: "Well, did you ever try before?"

He said, "Yes."

I said: "Did you try it through your member?" He said: "No."

I said: "Well, if you quit playing politics with it and come through your member you might get better results."

Mr. Laughren: Say that again: "Stop playing politics and go through your member?"

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, politics. Let's not kid ourselves when we get into the politics about it, Mr. Martel.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Haggerty: Every time I pick up that union paper of the United Steelworkers, I sit back in the Legislature and I think, golly, there is only one person here who speaks for labour in the whole Ontario Legislature.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not as far as I am concerned.

Mr. Laughren: Who is that?

Mr. Haggerty: Sometimes I sit back and look at the amount of union dues that I have paid into that association. I sit here and never get any credit from them whatsoever.

Mr. Martel: They figure you are a cop-out.

Mr. Haggerty: I'm not a cop-out. I might tell you this, they had problems with drinking water in the refinery in the city of Port Colborne; they had problems with drinking water within the city. At one time there was a low supply in the city. Through the generosity of International Nickel they use to crack a valve there to use their pumping facilities and treatment facilities to put water back into the municipal system.

Through my questions in the Legislature and probing, I found as I stood out at the gates there during election time, why we couldn't figure out why the men would carry cartons of pop into that plant. I made some inquiries about it. I found out the drinking water condition was not that good in there. If the hon. members have ever seen the process of manufacturing nickel, there is liquid produced that is almost brown. If the hon. members go down to Lake Erie, they can see some of it that has been dumped out there now, though it's supposed to be clean.

These men couldn't drink this water. I have a brother in the maintenance part of the International Nickel Co. One of his jobs is to go around and check the water supply. Tests were made of water. It was approved by the Department of Health locally. There was no coliform count in it, but after further studies by the Ontario Water Resources Commission a high content of nickel and other minerals was found in the drinking water that those men were drinking over a period of years.

I might say this much, my name was mud when the matter was raised here in the Legislature because it cost the company \$150,000 to put a water line in from the

municipal water service to give those men good drinking water. In all that period of time the worker breathes in contaminated air and drinks contaminated water and you sit back and you wonder.

As the member for Sudbury said, I'm concerned about the number of cancer cases in the nickel industry, too. Not too long ago, Local 6200 and myself were down to the Workmen's Compensation Board with a list of names. I won't go through all the names. The cases involved cancer of the lungs, cancer of the stomach, the larynx, skin cancer and sinus cancer.

I can tell you this much, through questions in the Legislature and on the order paper to the Minister of Health in 1969 and a question that came back I was able to appeal a couple of cases of sinus cancer, and had been successful with it. This has opened the door. There are other problems there on which, without sufficient research and enough study done in the plants in this particular type of industry, I don't think we are readily going to have the information that we're looking for.

Someplace along the line there is that agent that causes this industrial disease. It's there and it's in the process of manufacturing nickel. When you go before the Workmen's Compensation Board and they say, "What plants did he work in?" if you say sinter plant, there's not too much of a problem.

Mr. Martel: Not any more.

Mr. Haggerty: They usually allow the claim. But, then, how do you put the shield up from one department to the other department within that nickel industry? Just where is that agent? They don't put up any shield and say it's on the other side of the shield. It travels through the whole process of manufacturing nickel.

As one engineer said to me: If you work in the iron part of Algoma Steel, in the

process of manufacturing steel, you can work around iron and that will dissolve. If you inhale enough of that it will pass through your system. But with nickel it doesn't dissolve. It's just like a foreign agent in a person's body. If you get enough of that in there, you are going to have somebody have a reaction. I suppose this is when cancer or a breakdown in tissue comes about.

Terms like that are about the only way in which I can put it. There is something in the process of nickel that causes cancer. It has been reported from studies carried out in Europe and in Czechoslovakia and other places, and I think we are far behind compared with the studies and research that are taking place in other countries.

I am glad to see that Dr. Mastromatteo now is over in Europe and I think this is one of the things that perhaps he is going to be chasing up.

Mr. Martel: If they would only follow his recommendations when he is here it would help.

Mr. Haggerty: I think with all the information that is available they are trying to follow it, Elie. I would like to be a little more dramatic or radical in my approach to it and say that they are not doing enough. But I think in the last couple of years I can see that they are at least trying to do something and I hope—

Mr. Martel: He recommended two years ago that people not wear their respirators for more than two hours.

Mr. Chairman: Is this a good place for us to stop, Mr. Haggerty?

Mr. Haggerty: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: We will adjourn until after the question period on Tuesday.

The committee adjourned at 1:02 o'clock, p.m.

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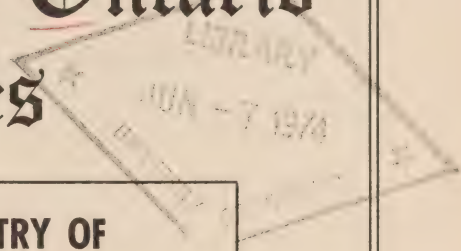
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ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Standing Resources
Development Committee
Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Tuesday, May 21, 1974
Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1974

The committee met at 3:10 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

(continued)

On vote 2204:

Mr. Chairman: On vote 2204, items 1 and 2, Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Mr. Chairman, I didn't conclude my remarks last Friday.

Mr. Chairman: Oh, you didn't conclude? I misunderstood. Mr. Haggerty then, followed by Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Haggerty: Last Friday, I believe I was discussing some of the problems in part of the mining industry, particularly with reference to the International Nickel Co. in Port Colborne.

I suppose there are three departments indirectly involved with mine safety and the health and welfare of the employees in the mining industry — the environmental health section of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of the Environment and this ministry. I am talking particularly of the health conditions of employees in the mining industry in Ontario.

I think I also mentioned that Dr. Mastro-matteo is over in Europe, although just what he is dealing with over there, I don't know. Do you know, Elie?

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): He has been borrowed by the industrial trade unions for two years.

Mr. Haggerty: He will be there two years? I sense we have lost a valuable department head in the Ministry of Health; I hope we will have somebody at one of the special sittings this committee will hold in the next two weeks.

I will not belabour this point in connection with industrial diseases in the mines, but I would like to ask the minister, under programme administration, what programmes he has now to deal with the problem of unskilled labour in the mining industry. Has he

any programme in the educational facilities for upgrading persons employed in the mining industry? Or do we have to go to Europe or Japan for skilled labour to meet the employment needs of the mining industry in Ontario? I understand there is almost a critical shortage of skilled labour in mining in Ontario.

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): That is an area that my ministry does not become directly involved in—

Mr. Haggerty: But indirectly you have a responsibility, do you not?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In supplying skilled labour?

Mr. Haggerty: Well, it is under your administration.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I would have to say not. We are not involved. Possibly the Ministry of Labour would be involved in that particular field, as would the federal Department of Manpower. That would be their responsibility.

Mr. Haggerty: But surely you should have some input in this. Are you not concerned that we are going to have to bring in immigrants to run our mines in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are doing it in certain cases right now, but I think the evidence is that many of the so-called Canadians just don't want to work underground. They would sooner work in other, more profitable jobs. They are not leaning toward this type of manual labour.

Mr. Haggerty: I understand there are some well-paying jobs in the mining industry in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, yes, there are many well-paying jobs.

Mr. Haggerty: But I suppose there are many persons in the labour market in Ontario at the present time who are perhaps not qualified or skilled in mine work. Surely your department must have some input in upgrading some of the workers—

Mr. Martel: They don't like the boom-bust economy.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The manpower secretariat under the Minister without Portfolio (Mr. McNie), announced by the Premier (Mr. Davis) today, could perhaps work very closely with the federal Manpower people to do just what you are saying, but it is not within the realm of our ministry to get involved in this particular aspect.

Mr. Haggerty: I would have thought you would be really concerned about this problem of depending on going outside the country to bring in additional people when we have a number of persons unemployed here in Ontario who could be doing that kind of work.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I think the same thing applies to the forest industries. We have a real shortage of skilled labour in the forest industries, and equally so within the mining industry. But we don't get involved in that aspect of things.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, let's take the college at Sudbury-Laurentian, I guess it is, Elie?

Mr. Martel: Cambrian.

Mr. Haggerty: Cambrian College. Is there no programme available there to upgrade unskilled workers in that area for mine employment?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I believe the Ministry of Colleges and Universities has something for upgrading.

Mr. Martel: They have a three-year introductory course in mining engineering at Laurentian and they have an engineering course at Cambrian. The trouble is that the right hand doesn't talk to the left hand in the educational field to dovetail their credits. They are at loggerheads constantly.

Mr. Haggerty: This is what I kind of sense. This is the problem. There is no direction from any government ministry at all to—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You are dealing with manpower and manpower doesn't come under this ministry. How many times do I have to tell you that?

Mr. Haggerty: I know that, but the point I'm trying to convey to you, Mr. Minister, is that you must have some responsibility in keeping the mines going in Ontario and if you don't have the labour then you are not going to have the mines running.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is a ministry of government that has that responsibility and it takes that responsibility.

Mr. Haggerty: Apparently they are not coming through with—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The federal government has a very large responsibility in this field, really.

Mr. Haggerty: Yet you read articles and reports by different persons involved in the mining industry in Ontario saying, "We need more skilled labour," but the government for some reason is not producing that skilled labour. That's what I'm trying to convey to you. You should have that input in there.

Mr. Martel: That isn't the problem.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Colleges and Universities, under the—

Mr. Martel: The real problem is that the workers are not going to be subjected to boom-bust, where there are massive layoffs, hiring at random and then all of a sudden you let it drop out of the bottom and everybody loses his house and his shirt and so on. Until the mining industry starts to rationalize its production you are, in fact, not going to see anyone move into the mining field.

Mr. Haggerty: I suppose you are right in that, but to pursue it further, the point perhaps is that when you are talking about the Ministry of Education, or Colleges and Universities, there are many persons with a grade 10 education who make exceptionally good miners. If you had a good job-training programme right there, not in the universities or the colleges, I think—

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): They do have on-the-job training.

Mr. Haggerty: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh yes, the companies have on-the-job training. They do a lot of training in their own field really. The companies do this.

Mr. Haggerty: They do that, but it is still a cost to them in a sense. Are you giving them any—

Mr. Martel: The grants come from the government, federal and provincial.

Mr. Haggerty: They do? Well I hope it is not—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But it is not this ministry, and I would say, Mr. Chairman, that this matter is completely out of order, and I am sorry to have to say that.

Mr. Haggerty: It may be out of order, but there is a point raised that I think you should have the input in there and be concerned about the problem of the skilled workers in the mining industry.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are concerned, obviously. If we are going to harvest the forest and manage the mineral resources then obviously we have to have sufficient manpower to do it. But it is just not our bag to get directly involved in these types of programmes.

Mr. Haggerty: On the other matter we raised the other day, about the different reports, you said that you were going to follow some of the recommendations of the select committee dealing with the natural resources, particularly the mining industry in Ontario. I can't make another wager with you, can I, on when you are going to bring in that legislation?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are studying those reports within the ministry itself.

Mr. Haggerty: How long does it take you to study them?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Once we look at it and examine it from our own point of view, and then take it to the policy field and then take it to government, it will be some time yet.

Mr. Martel: We haven't even made all the recommendations on mineral resources yet.

Mr. Haggerty: That is for sure. That's all I have to say for the present time.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. Ferrier: I have several things that I want to touch on, one of which I dealt with on my leadoff speech. That was the position taken by the BC government and the Legislature in enacting new regulations which recognized the significant role played by the unions in the encouragement of safety in mining operations. In a statement by the Hon. Leo T. Nimsick when this legislation was introduced, he said:

Local safety committee will henceforth receive copies of reports made by mining inspectors or by special ministerial investigators. Also, all qualified underground miners will be issued a special certificate of qualification.

So they recognized that there was a very highly skilled kind of work that the underground miner must do. The legislation in-

cluded the upgrading of safety rules in a number of areas, among them being:

Noise tests will be compulsory rather than voluntary, and miners will have the right to require air quality tests in their working places. In the realm of general welfare, miners working alone will be in closer contact with their fellow workers by periodic visits and the use of communication means. Mr. Nimsick underlined that aside from management, miners too will have to shoulder responsibilities in the area of mining safety. He said that the new regulations will protect workers from disciplinary action when refusing to work amid genuine safety hazards of an unusual nature. At the same time, both management and employees will be taken to task where they are found to disregard the safety rules.

This was one of the major points that we argued when the Mining Act was revised in 1971—that this general thrust should be put into legislation and that the miners whose own lives were at stake in those working conditions, who would have more to lose by poor safety than anybody else, should have these safety committees. We felt they should have this involvement.

We have heard debates in this committee in years past when tests have been taken by men or they thought that the conditions got so bad that they refused to work and very strict disciplinary action was taken. I feel that in the interests of safety and improving the conditions under which men work that this kind of approach should be enshrined in legislation. While I have had no opportunity to find out since this was passed last fall how well it's working, it seems to me that it's a very major step forward. I think if there was this involvement, a lot of the problems that reach the critical stage so often, could be headed off.

I would like to see you adopt this approach and I would like to know what your present position is in regard to it.

I remember back in 1971 there was that man, Wadge, who worked for International Nickel at that time. He was always more or less saying "no, no" and Allan Lawrence sort of got the cue all right. But I think we have progressed, hopefully, some degree from 1971 in our whole thinking of this matter and I would like to know what your position is.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, our position basically has not changed, Mr. Chairman. Certainly we are watching the BC experiment very closely. Our position to this time has

been that that should be enshrined, very appropriately, in the collective agreement that is worked out between the workers and the management. But as I said earlier we are going to watch what BC's successes are in this particular field. We are not cast in marble on it.

Mr. Martel: Lawrence said just the opposite.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are going to watch it very closely to see if there is some reason to improve on it, because we do want to improve on it.

Mr. Martel: Lawrence said just the opposite.

Mr. Ferrier: Don't you think, though, that in the matter of basic safety matters there should be a standard set by legislation and not left to collective agreements? For instance, you have one of the largest mines in Ontario, Texasgulf, where there is no collective agreement. Whether there's an opportunity to work that out or not, I don't know.

But I think that on basic matters like this, it's the responsibility of the government to set down a certain degree of standards that must be adhered to. I think if you provided the vehicle and the means whereby management and the union would meet together through joint safety committees and they would have to come to grips with these things and work them out face to face, that we would see an improvement in the working conditions in the mines and I think we could head off some of the troubles that develop.

I think this kind of basic thing should be enshrined in legislation and not left to negotiations. I have never been in negotiations, mind you; I don't know how they are carried out but I gather that there is give and take. On safety matters I don't think there should be that kind of give and take.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In most collective agreements they have safety committees established, and when you look at the record across Ontario, I think you will have to agree that they are working very effectively. If there is some way we can improve on it, fine and dandy, we will. But now that BC has gone in this direction, we will watch them very closely, and if there is an improvement we will certainly give it consideration.

Mr. Martel: Managerial rights.

Mr. Ferrier: The other matter I want to deal with at this time, although I reserve the

right to come in on several others as time goes on, is the question of mining taxation, particularly as it pertains to events in my own area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Going to be parochial, are you?

Mr. Ferrier: No, I am going to speak in a rather general way.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But you are always parochial when it comes to mining taxes.

Mr. Ferrier: No.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Get in step with the rest of your members.

Mr. Ferrier: Don't pre—, don't pre—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Don't provoke me?

Mr. Ferrier: No, don't prejudge what I'm going to say because—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I have heard it for three years in a row, so I know what you're going to say.

Mr. J. F. Foulds (Port Arthur): You have not listened. You have heard it but you have not listened.

Mr. Ferrier: You may not hear what you think you are going to hear.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Say that again.

Mr. Ferrier: The select committee on economic and cultural nationalism commissioned a report by Peat, Marwick and Partners, which tabled its report in October, 1973. Throughout the recommendations and conclusions seemed to be a fact that even some of the mining companies were coming around to the position that there would be a role for government activity in the mining industry.

Mr. Martel: They will never buy that.

Mr. Ferrier: This statement appears on page 101:

There appeared to be valid reasons for government activity in the mining industry. A principal reason is the fact that mineral resources are nonrenewable and that private sector decisions as to the timing of the development of these resources may not correspond to the government's perception of the socially desirable time horizon for the development of these resources.

In other words, unless the government does get very much involved, whatever programmes the government feels are necessary and the

goals that it wishes to achieve through this sector of the economy can be very easily thwarted by the decisions made in the corporate boardrooms in New York or elsewhere.

I suspect that a number of the mining companies, according to this question, are even themselves prepared to accept a kind of exploration and development role by government in the development of the resources of this province, particularly the future resources.

We have seen a number of moves in this direction in Quebec by a Liberal government and we have seen movements in this direction in the western provinces in regard to mineral or to petroleum products. So that the trail has been blazed to some degree. We have seen an amount of pioneering. We've even come to accept the fact that we should have a national petroleum corporation to do a number of things—to be involved in exploration and development and, I would hope, marketing of petroleum and to guarantee a source of supply when times are difficult.

In this period, governments realized that resources are the people's resources and that we must get a reasonable return for the public treasury from them. They must be used in the overall interests of the country or the province, whatever it may be.

As a result, government of all ilks have instituted taxation on the natural resource sector to get a return for the people in a way that has not been going on in the past.

As I say, it comes from governments of all stripes. You've even seen the pressure of a Conservative government in Newfoundland prepared to go the way of nationalization, if necessary, to gain control of certain of Brinco's operations for the development of the people and the good of the province. This is a very radical move, I suggest, for a Conservative government, but nonetheless there it is.

You then see the move by Premier Barrett in British Columbia in regard to getting a larger return for the public purse from the mining industry. And when the petroleum-producing provinces and the federal government and all the provinces reached an agreement on an increased price for oil and petroleum products, you saw governments, in varying degrees, deciding how much, if any, should go to the private company and how much should go to the public purse. Again, a Conservative government in Alberta collected over 60 per cent of the increase in price for the public purse.

So there has been a strong move to gain

for the people what we believe is rightfully ours. It is seen that our resources should produce wealth and a higher standard of living not just for a few people on Bay St. or in the corporate boardrooms of this country or in the United States or for a number of wealthy shareholders, but that our resources should produce a great deal more wealth for the people of the country and of the provinces as a whole. And I believe this is how it should be.

Now, the Treasurer (Mr. White), when he presented his budget, made the statement that we were going to see mining taxation changed in this province. It was going to be on a graduated scale on the basis of profits and the taxation revenue from the mining industry would be doubled.

While we welcomed it, we didn't believe it went far enough. We feel the situation in BC is a more equitable system and returns to the people a greater share of the revenue that is generated by this industry.

Be that as it may, we then found the minister of finance for Canada, in his budget, trying to take away a number of the concessions that had been granted to the petroleum industry and the mining industry over the years. It was not as crippling as the mining companies and the petroleum companies have claimed but they have done a terrific job of trying to convince the public that any change is just about to weigh them down.

Along with this move by the government, we have seen in the mining industry tremendously increased profits. You get reports from Texasgulf showing the highest profits in the company's history in the last couple of quarters. You see Inco's profits up by a significant degree. You see the same with Falconbridge and Noranda Mines, although Noranda Mines perhaps is not as prominent in Ontario as the other majors that we have just talked about. Because of higher commodity prices and a greater demand for our mineral resources, the mining companies have been in as strengthened a position as you would ever see. Even the gold mines, because of the high price of gold and the currency crisis and the monetary crisis, have now become on a footing almost equal to the base metals.

The unions have been negotiating much better contracts than they ever have before; I am informed that at one of the bargaining units in Timmins they have got over \$4 an hour for labourers in the gold mining industry. This is a great improvement. So, when

the companies are showing strength in profits and are in as healthy a state as they have ever been in—paying substantial dividends and expanding—they seem to bear a great deal of resentment at the imposition of any taxes or any changes. They come out with all their pleadings and their arguments and all the rest. I now want to relate this to the development as far as our particular area is concerned, and to explore a little bit some of my own thinking on the matter.

Before the provincial budget came in, Texasgulf announced that they were likely going to construct a \$95 million copper refinery or smelter adjacent to the zinc refinery that they constructed and put into operation recently in Timmins. They also suggested in their annual report that they were looking at the feasibility of a lead smelter in the same area. Everything seemed to be "go." There was great enthusiasm in the community. Everybody felt, here was expansion coming again; there would be a great deal of housing created and this kind of thing.

But then the Treasurer of Ontario announced that the taxation was doubling. I have read some reports by investment counsellors and the like. Anybody could project that taxation of the natural resource sector was bound to rise; it couldn't be any other way. Just in passing, while Quebec has not announced its particular changes, it's in the offing, so that it's going to be across Canada in varying degrees.

But when the Ontario government announced its proposed legislation that was going to come in, as a power play the president of Texasgulf said, "Now just hold on; we are going to re-evaluate this. We are not sure what those fellows up in Queen's Park are going to do. We are probably going to go ahead because they did say there were going to be some writeoffs for exploration and development and we think that this would probably make it worth our while to go ahead. But we are going to take just a little time so that we can study the legislation and make sure that there are enough concessions granted to us."

Well, they were sort of in this position and then along came John Turner and announced his proposal to raise the taxation on the mining industry and to cut out some of the depletion allowances, fast writeoffs and so on. Then they said, "No, it is off now. We are not going to go ahead and expand the processing of our ores. We are going to wait for a more opportune time."

Therefore, it raises a question. You have

the government being told that although you are really the elected representatives of the people and you are to express the will of the people and the rule for the people and to bring in legislation that would plan the life of the province or the country, and to set the goals—economic and industrial and social and so on—this is what your responsibility is to do and to try to direct the kind of life that would provide some kind of justice and some kind of standard for all your people.

Yet these companies, in taking this position are saying, "Look, if you are going to step on our toes one little bit then we are not going to play; we are going to hold back, and don't expect us to act 'the good corporate citizens' that you like to suggest that we are."

The mining companies are all very much given to their public relations people who are trying to promote the idea of the good corporate citizen that any of the principal mining companies is.

Mr. Martel: Robber barons.

Mr. Ferrier: Well, I think we all know that this is exactly the case. They say that we either play ball their way or we don't do it. We are the ones who are going to make the major decision.

I think this shows that governments must be tough and they must hang firm. When the changes were announced in regard to mining taxation by the Ontario Treasurer, even though those in the investment community were very well aware of what was likely to happen, it really was no surprise to them. I think that the mining companies themselves knew that they were going to be taxed higher.

Yet, you have people in the municipal councils of Timmins, for example, saying, "Oh goodness me, you shouldn't do anything to get anything more for the public treasury. You must sort of be the handmaidens and the servants of Texasgulf or whatever company it might be."

Mr. Martel: Sounds like the minister.

Mr. Ferrier: We really don't have much backbone and we do not really want to take a long-range view of this and we don't want to build up our country or build up our province.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You have changed a lot in the last few years, haven't you?

Mr. Ferrier: I might have changed. I'm not—

Mr. Foulds: It is called growth.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: After he has got some growth there, he has sure changed his tune. I recall very strongly how you kicked up your heels in the Legislature and didn't vote for your own party.

Mr. Ferrier: Of course, on one particular issue I—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: One, yes.

Mr. Ferrier: And I will explain that to you if you would like.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The record has shown it very clearly.

Mr. Ferrier: I felt that since I had been called upon by the government over a period of time to enact legislation and to negotiate and bring pressure to bear, in fact, to force Texasgulf, that we had to deal with the government of the day which was given to concessions. When the government at least did that much I found that it would be hypocritical of me at that point—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You are doing it now.

Mr. Ferrier: —to vote against what they had done. Now maybe—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You are changing your tune now.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Ferrier: Maybe I was wrong. I've taken a lot of negative flak for that. But so be it; I can take a lot of that kind of thing. By your interjection you are almost saying to me that you think that the move by your government to try to extract some more taxation out of the mining companies in this province—

Mr. Martel: Over the minister's objections, he certainly did.

Mr. Ferrier: —is a bad decision you must have objected to by just what you are saying.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Ferrier: You seem to feel that we should take a hands-off approach and let these fellows do what they want and to "H" with the public sector. The ministry apparently is not to oversee or to plan in any way the development of the natural resource industry of this province, but again is to be a handmaiden to it. I don't think that's a worthy role at all.

I feel that this is a confrontation that is coming up and it suggests two distinct policies. Is the government going to govern with its overall objectives? Is it going to set plans, economic policies? Is it going to exercise any control over the development of the mines and to try to find some kind of stabilization in the economy as far as is possible? Or is it going to leave the planning to the corporate sector in the resource industry?

Now we have an interesting phenomenon, for instance, with Texasgulf. About a year ago the Canada Development Corp. moved in and they, through an acquisition programme, bought about 10 million shares of Texasgulf, have about one third of the interest in that corporation, and now have three or four men on the board of directors. Now it appears at this juncture that they are more interested in the overall corporate profits, and the corporate policies of that company in a profit point of view, than in trying to enhance the position of the economy of Ontario and the economy of Canada.

If this is the best we can expect from the Canadian Development Corp., where it is solely interested in profits and is nothing different from another kind of corporation, then I really wonder what role it is to play in our economy.

This will be an interesting battle that will be ensuing in the next few months. We will see whether the government is prepared to hang tough—

Mr. Martel: Paper tigers.

Mr. Ferrier: —and stand up to Texasgulf, or whatever the companies might be, and go ahead with their policy. Or are they going to do a kind of a flip-flop? I do not think that the government can renege on any responsibility it has to the people to get a fair return—you are not getting a fair return—even to get a better return from the resources of this province, than we have gotten in the past. There are ways and means, I suggest, that the government can utilize in their negotiations with this company. You do have the opportunity of looking at the export policy on the ores.

Now, I must be careful as to what I say, because I did get a call about this and I haven't had a chance to return it. The suggestion was that I had said in the House—and I have got to check it over in Hansard—that I said "the unprocessed ores". Now, I realize that the ores are concentrated into the various components, such as lead or zinc

or copper or whatever it might be, but just the same, as I understand it, the regulation in regard to Texasgulf, as far as that section 113 is concerned, is that only half of this concentrated zinc has to be refined at that particular refinery in Timmins and that half of it can be refined outside Canada.

It can quite conceivably be that most of the copper is being smelted at Noranda. I am not sure about what's happening to the lead or tin. They do have a circuit there to recover the tin. I am not sure even about the silver, whether it is going out in concentrated form and the final processing is not being done there. I think that the government must take a pretty close look at that policy.

You do have, therefore, some very good bargaining tools right in your hands and you can say, "We are not helpless in our negotiation. We can make a policy and we have ways and means of enforcing that taxation policy if necessary. If it takes a little longer to exploit and process and develop that ore, then that's fine. We want that processing done here in Ontario and if you want to try to blackmail us, then we have these negotiating powers in our hands and just don't try to push too hard."

In the first instance, too many of us were a little bit clouded in our thinking and we fell into the very skilfully laid trap of saying, "Give them everything." The public accounts committee the other day came out with a very significant figure of \$420 million, I think it was, on the railway spur going into the property, that Texasgulf or Ecstall said they weren't going to pay because they had reached some kind of agreement with Allan Lawrence when he was minister and when he was conducting those negotiations. Of course, the federal government, through DREE, was very helpful and provided an \$8 million grant in the construction of the refinery.

As I say, we were all very helpful in what we did and we gave Texasgulf everything they wanted and more. They must have felt that they were pretty good card players and that we were all suckers to some degree. The position that I had taken, but it couldn't be implemented through this government, was that the company should be told that this is where the zinc refinery was to be built, and only with very conclusive studies to show that it was an economic disaster and that it shouldn't be built there, would the government hear anything else.

That was the position that I took and I think that a government that is going to be

on top of its economy and plan its resource development and have a say in its resource development should be prepared to get that tough if necessary.

If negotiations break down and government policy is going to be thwarted and the companies say they are not prepared to work within the guidelines of the province for the good of the people but will operate solely for profits then you can have your confrontation and your negotiations.

If they say, "If you won't give us all the concessions and the writeoffs and all the privileges we won't operate," then maybe we have got to be prepared to take a final step.

We must say, "All right, if you are not going to return to the people of this province and this country an equitable return for the utilization of our resources, then maybe we are going to have to move in and take them over."

That is a step that is at the end of the road as far as I am concerned but it is a step—if we are going to have control and a say in our own destiny—that I think we have to be prepared to take.

I am not taking a soft position on this matter. If it takes a few more years to get the development that is needed, then we will work it through, but we will stand firm and we will stand hard and we will fight.

But there must be no more concessions, no more unreasonable giveaways. There must be a fair return for the people from the development within Ontario and if there is not you must say, "Either work within our guidelines and we will work it out in a reasonable way, or else, if necessary, we will operate it ourselves."

Mr. Martel: I support that position.

Mr. Ferrier: I think perhaps the minister got a few surprises in what I have said that he didn't expect.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is a complete reversal of your earlier statement.

Mr. Ferrier: I don't care if it is a reversal.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The party hats must have got to you.

Mr. Ferrier: I talk what I see.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Elie must have got to you.

Mr. Ferrier: And I am open-minded enough—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You've embarrassed the party over the years by your hypocritical approach to the mining tax of this province and the industry—

Mr. Martel: You talk about a hypocritical approach!

Mr. Ferrier: In one instance. In one instance.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Now you come back and—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Ferrier, you have redeemed yourself.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel.

Mr. Martel: Is the minister not going to respond to the member for Cochrane South?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You can carry on.

Mr. Martel: No, you won't be able to get away with it. I won't go on. I will talk of one item at a time and you will respond.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will respond when you are finished.

Mr. Martel: No you won't.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes I will. I will respond when you are finished.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, I can't help but be amazed when you say my colleague has changed his stance. I can recall the minister's statements over the years.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Check the record.

Mr. Martel: Let the record show that the minister spoke at the Royal York Hotel and said, "We can't tax the mining industry too much. They will move out or they will go bankrupt." He was right in their old hip pocket. Bankrupt? In fact the profits of the mining companies that we see don't really indicate their true profits because of the various tax writeoffs they have. But I don't want to talk about that for the time being. We will come back to that later on. I want to talk—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Let's hear about it. We will play a record.

Mr. Martel: No. no. You haven't heard this one, Mr. Minister. I expect that what you are going to hear will just be a further condemnation of your ministry. By the way,

you are the only ministry that collects its own revenue in government, aren't you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know.

Mr. Martel: I believe you are. I suspect there is a reason for that too.

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): The Tories aren't supporting you in the House again.

Mr. Martel: Brady Lee used to run around as the chief assessor.

Mr. Laughren: I wouldn't support that bill in there either. You should be ashamed of it.

Mr. Chairman: Order please.

Mr. Martel: Yes, you are the one who assesses the amount of tax they will pay. It is the only ministry in government that does so. That is convenient. That is part of the whole collusion that surrounds this ministry.

I was interested to hear the minister say that you should negotiate safety. You know, the White Knight used to say that there wasn't a place for negotiating safety, that government, in fact, had to legislate safety.

This minister says you must negotiate it. What the minister is saying is that safety is the sole prerogative of management.

That is, in fact, what he is saying. It is a nice way of continuing managerial rights. That is exactly what you are saying if you say it has to be negotiated, because you know full well that to expect the union to strike on a safety issue is very difficult. What you are doing is confirming managerial rights permanently for the mining corporations. And you are taking a position completely different from that taken by Allan Lawrence when he was minister, when he said it couldn't be negotiated and shouldn't be negotiated. It's the responsibility of government and that's why they have a Mining Act to ensure safety.

I can well recall during the mining estimates—when we considered Bill 2—I guess that was the name of it at the time. Just to show you the type of collusion that goes on: Smith used to be the chief mining engineer, I guess, in the province. We negotiated or tried to get some changes in that Act that would give the men the right to leave a place that was unsafe. And old Smitty used to say, "Well, there's no comparable jurisdiction that allows that to happen." He knew all the time—we didn't at the time—that the American legislation was such that the United

Mine Workers could in fact, if they found conditions unsafe, close a mine down.

But the committee during that great lengthy debate on Bill 2 was never advised of that. I wonder why? Certainly Smith knew what the American legislation was and he wouldn't indicate that the miners, if they found a coal mine which was unsafe when they went in, could demand not to go in. In fact the federal legislation was such that they didn't have to. But we weren't advised. That indicates the type of collusion.

Mr. Haggerty: The difference there, in the States, or in Canada or in Ontario here, is the mining inspector there goes down in the mines, not on the top, that's the difference—

Mr. Martel: That would help.

Mr. Haggerty: —but they don't have so much profit.

Mr. Martel: Which all leads me, Mr. Minister, to another—

Mr. Haggerty: They are on the job, right in the mines.

Mr. Martel: —aspect of your safety programme and that's industrial deafness. As I said on Friday, many of the issues that we have eventually got concessions on and got legislation improved or conditions improved, did not come about as a result of the expert advice you indicated you had available. Over and over again, as I said the other day, we, in fact, flew by the seat of our pants as we tried to get conditions changed.

I well recall your colleagues on the other side of the House, when I would speak on this, saying exactly as you said on Friday, that conditions were exaggerated. I recall suggesting that this committee go to Sudbury to go into the smelter for eight hours. Most of the Tory members would have happen to them what happened to the camera crew that went in. Out of the five men who went in, I think we eventually took three to hospital —after eight hours in the smelter unannounced. We would have had Tories dropping dead all over the place if they had had to spend eight hours there.

Your expert advice, as I say, didn't help anyone over the years to improve the conditions. And over the years there has been an exchange of correspondence on industrial noise—a fair amount. So I could put on the record a request that we made of the Ministry of Mines to have tests taken in various locations because conditions were found to

be less than desirable. On each and every occasion we got the reply back that the noise levels were not that bad as to necessitate too much change.

I can talk about, if you like, Mr. Minister, the copper refinery, the boiler room, with respect to noise. I can talk about noise levels in the oxyton plant in Copper Cliff, if you'd like, where we got the watered-down versions. I can talk about a whole host of places—the hoist rooms at Stobie mine, and Allan Lawrence saying that nothing is wrong; subsequently replies from you saying that there's nothing wrong. And from you—the noise level in the hoist room, No. 7 shaft, Creighton mines; nothing wrong.

And yet we found an increasing number of men going deaf. In fact, if you talk to most underground miners, or if you talk to many men who work in a variety of plants—the ball mills and so on at Inco, Falconbridge or at any other mine—you find you have to shout at them so that they can hear you. You see, they don't realize they're going deaf. They have no conception they're going deaf. Their families know long ahead of them that they're going deaf, but they're not aware of it.

After discussion with the two major unions in the Sudbury area, the United Steelworkers and Mine, Mill, sometime in early March, I wrote three letters—one to the Minister of Health (Mr. Miller), one to the Minister of Mines, and one to the Minister of Labour (Mr. Guindon). To the Minister of Labour I wrote the following letter on March 28:

There is and has been an apparent increase in the number of cases of industrial deafness due to noise, both on surface and underground operations in the Sudbury area. Would you be so kind as to have the WCB supply me with the number of claims filed in 1973 for the entire Sudbury area, dealing with industrial deafness for both surface and underground mining operations. If possible, I would like to have the number of claims established and the number of claims filed.

Thanking you for providing me with this assistance, I am, sincerely yours.

On April 1 the minister replied that he would look for the material. And on April 18, the Minister of Labour supplied me with the following material:

Further to my letter of April 1, I have now received a report from the Workmen's Compensation Board concerning the number of claims submitted from the Sudbury area for industrial deafness. I am advised

by the board that during the year 1973, 138 claims were submitted. There is no breakdown of this figure for surface and underground operations. As of this date, April 18, 80 claims have been allowed. Eighteen could not be accepted as coming within the terms of the Act, and 40 were still under review. These figures for this group of claims will change daily as the number under inquiry is reduced with each decision made.

And I suspect the Minister of Labour is wrong because the number of claims is not going to go down; in fact the number of claims made is going to rise rather substantially. One hundred and thirty-eight! One has to ask himself, where have the mine inspectors been during this period of time? What type of testing has the Ministry of Mines been doing during this period of time to guarantee that we don't have industrial deafness?

Mr. Laughren: About what you would expect.

Mr. Martel: I submit that like silicosis and like cancer, they've been off in the woodwork. In fact, I tried to find in the Mining Act, where it was covered. I can't find it in the Act. Industrial deafness. Isn't that amazing? It was brought into the Industrial Safety Act a good number of years ago, but as yet it's not even in the Mining Act. That indicates to you, Mr. Minister, why I suggested a long time ago that industrial noise or industrial safety or industrial disease should be taken out of your ministry. What they have been able to do boggles the mind. They have been able to help or to guarantee or to ensure that we have silicosis and we have industrial deafness and we have cancer by their failure, whenever they have been around, to find any of the conditions which were adverse to men.

As I say, I was surprised it is not in the Act. One would suspect that being men—how would you term them?—of high calibre and concern, they would have been pushing all of these years to get that in the Mining Act.

I then wrote your colleague, the Minister of Health, the following letter:

Over the last number of years I have been heavily involved in the safety programme of the United Steelworkers of America with respect to the International Nickel Co., and with the Mine, Mill union with respect to Falconbridge. Over these years, it would appear to me as though there is a growing number of cases of industrial deafness occurring in the Sudbury region, some of it because of working con-

ditions and some of it because of exposure, particularly in the mines but, as well, in some of the plants operated by Inco and Falconbridge.

As you know, I am making no bones about having very little love for either one of these companies. My experience has been that they are continually out to put production ahead of safety in all aspects and it has been a tremendous effort to even get the most minimum of safeguards for the employees. I need only to remind you that it took approximately four to five years to get the establishment of the cancer problem from the sintering plant. In fact, rumour has it that Inco is in the planning stages of reopening the hell hole.

That's the sintering plant, which now has 38 or 39—I am told it will be some different type of operation but the same plant is being opened up and they are going to make brickettes of some sort.

Be that as it may, I want to turn my attention to the problem of those men who are going deaf as a result of exposure. I have had some discussions in the past little while and have been advised that there is absolutely no necessity for any man to go deaf. Not a single solitary man or a woman in this province should be going industrially deaf, according to one of the leading experts in this province.

Not one. Yet last year we establish 80; 40 more are being considered and 18 are all in the Sudbury area alone.

That was before the Act was changed because now, under the new Workmen's Compensation Act, a man who remains in the same area will be able to get compensation. Before, he had to leave the area of exposure before he could get his claim established. Now he can stay there. He can go on getting deaf but he will get a pension for doing it.

I will come back to that problem a little later on. The real tragedy of the whole problem would appear to be a lack of concern by his ministry as well.

At the present time, as I understand it, the Workmen's Compensation Board is the sole judge of whether a man has been industrially deafened and the degree of impairment due to the deafness; financial compensation if any; retraining or prosthetic measurements, etc.

In other words, the compensation board determines it all. Isn't that interesting? It collects the money from the mining companies for the amount of accidents which occur or industrial deafness which occurs and it adjudi-

cates the amount of deafness a man suffers and it determines the amount of compensation he will receive. Isn't that an interesting little ball game? That's being judge and jury and prosecutor all at once. There's a real chance for these men, isn't there, Mr. Minister?

In other words, the Workmen's Compensation Board acts as an indemnity company, collecting the premiums from industry and paying out on industry's behalf ludicrously small amounts. I am getting more than a little offended by this whole bloody procedure. It is obvious the Ministry of Health's interest in noise deafness is relatively small. It has made a noise assessment service and a mobile audiometric service available on a limited basis to a number of industries in southern Ontario.

In southern Ontario. Don't take it to where the real epidemic proportions are reached—the mining industry of northern Ontario. Heaven forbid. They wouldn't want to do that. You have the tests being conducted in southern Ontario.

I have seen very little effort from the WCB or the ministry to sponsor any type of meaningful programme in the Sudbury area. It seems to me that as well as sponsoring some type of clinic, the health unit should be making a firm stand with respect to the methods of preventing noise-induced forms of deafness.

I was simply amazed, as I looked through the Mining Act recently, to see nothing with respect to noise deafness. I might have overlooked it, but if it is there I want to indicate to you that the section is so minuscule as to be totally absent. It would only make sense to have the ministry research noise-induced deafness in the miners in the Sudbury area, with respect to how it decreases efficiency and the ability to work, and with respect to the loss of skilled labour, loss of income and early retirement, as well as adequacy of retirement benefits, costs of welfare, and most important, the price of human misery. And the list goes on.

With the above in mind I guess what I am saying is that it is time your ministry got off its proverbial fanny and started a proper testing programme, a proper investigation of what is going on in the Sudbury area, and what the costs have been to the workers who have been incapacitated. I suggest it must be done in the Sudbury area. In insisting on this, I have only to think back when tests for SO₂ were

considered in Toronto—not on the site, but in Toronto—by the former Minister of Health. I would appreciate your comments.

Well, I wrote that to the Minister of Health on April 17 and to show you his concern, we haven't got a reply yet. And he is vitally concerned with the 138 cases that were filed for last year.

Then, ultimately, I wrote the Minister of Mines on March 28. I said to the Minister of Mines:

Recently, I have had a number of discussions with representatives of United Steel and Mine, Mill re their growing concern about the increased number of their members suffering from industrial deafness due to noise. It would appear as though they believe that the noise levels are being exceeded in a variety of locations both underground and in the plants. I would like to know if, in fact, your staff has tested the noise levels in all the areas both underground and surface, where it would appear there might be a possibility of excess noise. If so, I would appreciate a copy of the evidence from both operations (Inco and Falconbridge). If not, then I suggest that an immediate programme of testing be undertaken. I would also like to know what the threshold limits are for the noise and the length of time that men can be exposed to this noise. Thanking you for providing me with this information.

And I signed it. Well, on May 6, about a month and nine days later, the minister got around to replying. You will notice I raised a number of questions—whether there had been a testing programme, a report of what was discovered with respect to noise levels, what threshold limits were being assigned by the ministry, and the length of time which men could be exposed to these threshold limits. On May 6, I got a letter from the minister. It says:

Re noise. Your letter of March 28 is acknowledged. We agree with you that the question of noise is a cause of concern. [We heard that the other day about silicosis too.] The noise control and hearing protection code has been issued by the division of mines of my ministry. This new code will become effective on July 1, 1974.

Well, hurrah! On July 1, 1974, the Ministry of Mines will introduce something to protect the miners and the men in the plants against industrial deafness. Isn't that a major breakthrough? Where have you been all these

years? It seems to me you have been hiding in the woodwork.

The minister then goes on: "For some years now the TLV for noise has been 90 decibels with a ceiling value of 115 decibels." Which indicates to me, of course, that you haven't done the testing, because I know for a fact that the 115 is being exceeded at Inco constantly. We will come to that in a little while as well. So we have another nonsense letter from the ministry.

I'll repeat that. "For some years now the TLV for noise has been 90 decibels with a ceiling value of 115." I wonder what has happened to the men who were exposed to higher than 115.

"Hearing protection is required to be worn for all areas with noise in excess of 115 decibels—" Well, even that has its limitations, Mr. Minister. I don't know who has been advising you on that, but as I said, on this one we are not flying by the seat of our pants. We have one of Ontario's leading experts working with us; so we are going to have some fun with some of your statements in a little while.

"—and in fact, it is generally worn in excess of 90 decibels. Whenever the ministry engineers deem noise level excessive, the companies are required to provide noise measurement data." I asked for some of that and didn't receive it. Was that an oversight? No response from the minister. It is just a small oversight. I suspect it doesn't exist, and maybe the minister can prove me wrong.

At the time the code was issued, instruments were ordered supplied to all mining engineers in the province and when available will permit the auditing of data supplied by the company. Further, if in the view of the ministry the need arises, then the occupational health protection branch of the Ministry of Health will be called in to undertake in-depth surveys.

I would suspect, Mr. Minister, now that we know that there are 120 cases at least that will be accepted or probably accepted—80 of them already having been—have we reached epidemic proportions yet? Or have we reached a situation yet which would indicate the necessity to call in the occupational health protection branch of the Ministry of Health? Have we reached that state yet, Mr. Minister?

Mr. Chairman, would you wake the minister up?

Mr. Chairman: Carry on.

Mr. Martel: No, I have asked a question. I want to know if we have reached that stage yet?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am not going to answer that question. You are doing the talking. I am doing the listening.

Mr. Martel: You are not going to answer the question?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No.

Mr. Martel: You don't think 80 cases established in one year, and 40 more likely to be established—and only 18 turned up—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will reply to your comments after you are finished.

Mr. Martel: Right. And we will get the same type of bland statement we got the other day.

Mr. Chairman: Continue.

Mr. Martel: It is obvious the minister is embarrassed for a number of reasons in his response.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is a very ignorant approach to take, that's all.

Mr. Martel: It is an ignorant approach? Well, you know we have tried every other approach with the ministry. I would like to know why you call it "ignorant." Because we are putting the facts on the table? What is ignorant about it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Your entire approach to the whole affair.

Mr. Martel: Oh, I should be most genteel and I should—

Mr. Laughren: You are not part of the club, Elie.

Mr. Martel: Yes, right. And I should watch men go deaf every day in the Sudbury area—as we watched them get cancer in the sintering plant and as we fought like hell over silicosis. We should all join this nice big club and nothing will happen. Eh?

Mr. Ferrier: There are men going deaf at all the levels.

Mr. Martel: That doesn't bother them.

Mr. Ferrier: A tremendous number of them are getting compensation claims—

Mr. Laughren: Hear no evil, speak no evil, and see no evil.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You guys leave the impression that nobody is concerned—

Mr. Martel: Well, if you haven't—

Mr. Laughren: You are not concerned, really.

Mr. Ferrier: You wait until the problems reach critical proportions, then you seem to think you will get involved.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Give you a little bit of information and you twist it and turn it.

Mr. Martel: A little bit. Are you saying that when 80 men went deaf last year, that is a little bit of information?

Mr. Laughren: And silicosis cases.

Mr. Martel: A raft of silicosis cases is a little bit of information? Thirty-five or 38 lung cancer cases in the sintering plant is a little bit of information? I don't suspect it is, Mr. Minister. I want to ask you—and I hate to bother you, because you are touchy—what kind of equipment are you talking about in your letter? This “sophisticated equipment” that you are going to get; what type of equipment is the minister speaking about?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Finish your comments and I will reply.

Mr. Martel: The minister chooses not to reply, again.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I didn't choose not to reply. I will reply at an appropriate time.

Mr. Martel: Well, I just don't want to forget them. It will take me a moment, Mr. Chairman, to write it down because I don't want to lose track of it. We will come back to it.

I suspect, and I am told that there hasn't been a piece of equipment used in the mines or the smelters to this date that has given the actual readings. In fact, I am told that no one really knows at Inco or at Falconbridge what the actual noise levels are because the equipment being used by them is not adequate to determine it. Again, of course, the minister indicates to me that they have taken material from Inco and Falconbridge, and I am told that the noise deafness in Elliot Lake is even worse, because the type of metal or the type of ore being processed is somewhat harder, causing that much more noise during the mining operation. But once again this ministry relies on Inco and Falconbridge and Denison and so on to get the

material which they audit, and that's been highly successful in ensuring that men go deaf, highly successful.

I have indicated, from the Minister of Labour, how many industrial death claims were established. I was really amazed with the minister's third paragraph of his letter. Mr. Minister, have you got any idea of what the db(a)s are? Does the minister know, for example, if the noise level is 92 decibels, how long a man can be exposed to that amount of noise?

Does the minister know that at the 115 decibels he talks about in his letter the maximum period for exposure should be one half hour?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You're wrong.

Mr. Martel: I am sorry. I am not wrong.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You are wrong again.

Mr. Martel: I am sorry. I have the Industrial Safety Act in front of me, Mr. Minister. Let me—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You are going by a little bit of information.

Mr. Martel: Let me quote the Industrial Safety Act and let me quote from a speech which indicates:

The 90 db(A) was set by the Walsh-Healey Act as the critical level which must not be exceeded when an individual is exposed for eight hours per day. If he is exposed for longer periods of time than this, then less than 90 db(A) may prove damaging. Conversely, for sound pressure levels of higher than 90 db(A), shorter times of exposure are considered to be damaging. From this one standard, the Walsh-Healey Act developed a set of noise exposure ratings.

This sets the duration per day in hours. For eight hours of exposure, the db(A)s are 90. Then they can have eight hours exposure if it's not more than 90, without equipment. Without equipment, they should not be exposed to noise exceeding 92 decibels for more than six hours in a shift. If they are exposed to 95 decibels, they shouldn't be exposed for more than four hours. If they are exposed to 100 db(A), they should not be exposed for more than two hours; to 102, 1½ hours; to 105, one hour; to 110, a half hour; and to anything over 115, half an hour or less. I think that's correct, isn't it, Mr. Minister?

In fact, the Industrial Safety Act, for 115, says a “quarter or less.” Now, you quote that

hearing protection is required to be worn for all areas with noise in excess of 115 decibels. If it is not worn in an area, let's say, of 97, the men should not, in fact, be exposed for more than three hours. Are you ensuring that that's occurring?

I want to talk about even the earplugs, because my information is, Mr. Minister, that the stopes at Inco range from 118 to 121 decibels, and in many places, better than 120. And I am told by the specialist with whom I am conversing on this subject that these stopes aren't tested with very sophisticated equipment. In fact, his words were "cheap equipment."

He suggests that we need better equipment to test the actual noise levels so that we can protect the men. And he tells me that if muffs are worn over and above the plugs—and if the noise level was 120—that by combining the plugs and the muffs the maximum reduction of decibels would be from 20 to 25.

So, if we look at 120—and we will be generous and give a reduction of 25 decibels—we are still talking about 95 decibels, and no man should be in an area of over-exposure for more than four hours. And that's not occurring.

I am told the efficiency of the muffs are reduced when one wears safety glasses, because, in fact, they lift them slightly. They reduce the efficiency of the muffs by at least five per cent. We could add on to the 95 $2\frac{1}{2}$ more decibels, bringing the total up to 97 $\frac{1}{2}$, which means that men shouldn't be working in those areas for any more than three hours, and that isn't happening. That just isn't happening.

And the worse part about it is, you have never tested it. Inco has not used the most sophisticated equipment to do the testing, and you don't even have it covered in the Mining Act. And so you can say I am going only by a little bit of information, Mr. Minister. But, I suggest to you that the man I am dealing with has a hell of a lot more expertise than anyone on your staff in this field, because he is one of the leading ear specialists in this province.

I will come to one of his statements in a few moments. But day in and day out, men are working in a variety of places in Inco, and at Falconbridge and Elliot Lake, where, in fact, even by giving you the benefit of the doubt of a 25-decibel reduction of noise inducement, they would still be exposed. In the stopes at Inco they are exposed to 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ decibels and they shouldn't be working there for more than three hours.

Therefore the number of claims that are going to occur, Mr. Minister, isn't 100. In fact, I am told that the estimated number of claims really in existence at Inco, if they were paid properly, comes to between \$20 million and \$30 million, and that's the problem. It's that serious. Most of the established claims were established before the Act was changed. A worker actually had to leave his place of work before he could establish a claim.

Now, we will go on paying him, and he can stay there. We are going to come to the problem of what happens to the underground miner, or the guy in the plant, at age 45. This problem is of epidemic proportions, and you don't discuss it in the Act. And you don't monitor it yourself.

Mr. Minister, the Industrial Safety Act, 1972, included it. I suspect it was included before then. Perhaps the minister could answer why the Ministry of Mines has never included this problem in the Mining Act, because it's not there, unless, as I said earlier, I couldn't find it. But why hasn't it been in the Mining Act? You told us the other day you have all kinds of experts, engineers, and so on. Why didn't they insist it was in the Mining Act?

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): Mr. Chairman, is there a time limit on how long a guy can talk here?

Mr. Martel: If you don't like it, Eddie, leave.

Mr. Sargent: I don't know, I might as well, because—

Mr. Martel: Right, you might as well. I am going to be talking quite some time.

Mr. Sargent: You are, as always, just making noise for Hansard there, and talking to your people.

Mr. Laughren: Your party hasn't contributed anything to this debate.

Mr. Sargent: I know, because we haven't had a chance to enter into it.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Martel: You might come around more often; we haven't seen you for two weeks.

Mr. Sargent: I know.

Mr. Martel: You can't contribute if you are not here.

Mr. Sargent: Make sure that's in Hansard, will you, please? I can use that in the next election too.

Mr. Martel: Right.

So I ask the minister why it has never been included in the Mining Act because, as he said the other day, he has the experts, and they should have been advocating and insisting on this.

In fact, the question remains, what have you been doing to protect the men against industrial deafness? I want to know, Mr. Minister—and I give you fair warning now—I want to know the information I didn't receive in my correspondence with you as to the noise levels underground, both at Falconbridge and at Inco. I want to know before we are finished with this vote.

I want to know what they are in a variety of places, such as in the ball mills, the stopes, the crushers underground, the crushers on surface—Bud, do you know any other noisy places we want to throw in?

Mr. M. C. Germa (Sudbury): Sump stations.

Mr. Martel: The sump stations. We want the noise levels—

Mr. Germa: The oxygen plant. That's the worst one.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): You might even try this committee.

Mr. Martel: We want the noise levels, Mr. Minister—

Mr. Allan: This is pollution.

Mr. Martel: You don't have to listen. It isn't your people who are going deaf, Mr. Allan.

Mr. Germa: The golf club guy doesn't go into the mines.

Mr. Martel: They don't get deaf in the golf clubs, except from the band and the booze.

Mr. Laughren: Moog's never been underground.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Sargent: There are a lot of golfers in this province. You'll lose all their votes.

Mr. Martel: Not the ones at the Sudbury golf club.

In fact, I want to know if anyone in your ministry really knows what the levels are.

Now, Mr. Minister, you are a great one, and so was your predecessor, for insisting that the mining companies' doctors test the

men before they are hired; in fact, you insist that the mining companies' doctors have more skill than most specialists. Over the years my colleague from Cochrane South and I have presented cases where specialists have said there was nothing wrong with a man's hearing or with his sight, but if the mining company doctor says "no," even though he's a general practitioner, the mining company's doctor's word is accepted. That's law in this province. Not a specialist, heaven forbid, no; but the mining company's doctor.

It would be interesting to know what the mining company doctors have been reporting to you in their interests. As you indicated on Friday, I paint with a wide brush, but I'd like to know what Brett Hazelwood has written to you about his concern for men going deaf. In fact, as I said earlier, I'm told that the number of claims is worth anywhere from \$20 to \$30 million.

Another interesting fact, Mr. Minister—and I'd like your answer to this as well—is that in the testing programme conducted by Inco, the men never get the results. Could you tell me why that is? Year after year, the men never get the results of the tests that have been taken, and as they get gradually harder of hearing they are never advised. That's a little ludicrous, don't you think?

I have to make the point again that most men don't realize they are going deaf. And as the company's reports come in from that little happy band they've got up there testing—yes, the group that's doing the testing at Inco is led by a technician who went down to the States and took a four-day course; he's back, conducting all of the tests on the basis of his four-day trip to some school.

As the hearing loss grows larger, the mining companies fail to tell the men. Now, you tell me why that is, that men shouldn't know that they are becoming increasingly deaf. In fact, the only purpose to which Inco puts the test is for job classification. They use these, without telling the men, for job classification. They won't tell him he's going deaf, then they deny him a job and use the hearing test for that purpose.

I understand they ran into a bit of a kerfluffle with a specialist who was doing the test for them at one time because he opposed them for not telling the men the amount of deafness was increasing every year and said they were using the material for job classification purposes. So we now have Inco doing its own testing and the man took a four-day training course.

I would also like to know, Mr. Minister, who daily calibrates the equipment the man for Inco tests the men with? I am told that to test industrial deafness the equipment must be calibrated every day. It's called quality control. I want to know how this man with his four-day course is equipped to test that sophisticated equipment.

I want to know, taking into consideration when he's conducting the tests, if your staff has been concerned about what the humidity is in the area where he's taking the test? I want to know if your staff is concerned about what the temperature is as he takes these tests because all of that information must be part of the test taken to determine the amount of deafness being brought about. I want to know where the tests are conducted. There is a little mobile van they run around in and we are going to come back to that.

We would have been better off, Mr. Minister, had you answered each of these as we went along because we are going to come back to them one by one anyway.

Your people, you indicate to me in your letter, audit the testing done by Inco so they should be in a position to tell me who calibrates the equipment; what the humidity is when the tests are being taken; what the temperatures are when the tests are being taken; and the location of the tests being conducted.

Mr. Minister, so that I won't disappoint you, having put all that together, I spent a considerable amount of time with, as I say, one of the leading experts in this field. I asked him for his opinion of what was going on in the Sudbury area and what his opinions are with respect to industrial deafness. He wrote them down for me and I am going to quote them. His first statement is intriguing.

Noise-induced deafness is preventable.

Now that being the case, once again your ministry stands condemned.

To achieve prevention requires the co-operation of the employee, the employer and the deafness programme.

I could put in parentheses: which this ministry doesn't have because it isn't in the Mining Act.

The division into three parts is purposeful for each part has a different viewpoint, different motives and different obligations.

Mr. Sargent: He should run it.

Mr. Martel: To continue:

Ideally the blending of the three points of view will prevent the present situation.

Mr. A. Carruthers (Durham): He should be made president of International Nickel.

Mr. Martel: Well, if you are not worried about men going deaf, I am.

Mr. Carruthers: We are worried. I listened very carefully.

Mr. Martel: You sound as though you are worried.

Ideally the blending of the three points of view will prevent best the present situation where the employee loses his ability to work, his ability to communicate socially and perhaps ultimately loses his sanity. The employer in his turn loses efficiency, loses the services of his best-trained employees and loses the respect of his employees. Ontario loses the services of trained labour and in its place harvests a crop of deafened, impoverished, psychological misfits for whom it must pay on its welfare rolls and in its psychiatric wards.

The deafness prevention programme broadly has two parts, or should have—one, noise control engineering and other preventive measures, such as posting of hazardous areas and personal protection devices; and, two, an audiometric monitoring programme of all employees to detect the first sign of deafness or the first change for the worse if he had a previous hearing loss. The programme should be developed either by a third party who has the trust and respect of both employee and employer or it should be developed jointly by employees and employer with equal rights to consult and equal access to all of the data produced by the programme.

None of this is in existence yet, Mr. Minister. As I said earlier, the men are not given the results of the tests. In fact, Inco has a little game it plays. If they detect too much deafness they advise the employee that he should see his family physician. His family physician then refers him to an ear specialist, so that OHIP pays the tab. If Inco sent him directly to a hearing specialist there would be a loss of time. They would have to send him over by cab or something for the test. You do it by this circuitous route.

Mr. Haggerty: I hope he has more than 10 years.

Mr. Martel: Well, they come to this too.

Mr. Haggerty: If he hasn't got the 10 years then he is out.

Mr. Martel: To continue:

A hearing programme is a scientific investigation conducted on the site of some of the most difficult field conditions in the world and there must be assurance that the quality control is adequate to make the results meaningful.

That is why, Mr. Minister, I asked you about quality control in the testing programme.

The employee must be educated that noise deafness is an insidious destroyer of his work potential. When it begins it is unrecognized by him.

That is the problem. He doesn't even know he is going deaf.

When it is moderately developed, it is merely a nuisance to him. But when it is severe, it interferes with the quality of his work his chances for promotion and even his chances for employment of any kind. We'll come back to that in a little while, too.

He should grasp as one statement that not only are such catastrophic results irreversible, but that they are readily detectable as it happens, and eminently preventable through his and his employer's efforts.

Mr. Sargent: What page is that piece there?

Mr. Martel: Page three. Page three.

Mr. Sargent: Four more pages to go.

Mr. Martel: No. Just a couple more, Eddie. You shouldn't worry about it. If you've got nothing to add you can leave.

The knowledge of the status of an employee that comes from a hearing test is just as personal and just as vital in his understanding by the employee as the results of a blood test or a chest x-ray. The employee must not be governed by his fear, but liberated by his knowledge. He has fears of automation, fears of company surveys, fears of job allocation and fears of loss of income. If he must have a fear, let it be that of loss of employability in the vista of a young middle-aged man, too young to retire, too deaf to work, living on welfare, whose total information comes from his eyes, since no one can communicate with him.

The employer. The employers are generally concerned with the auditory health of their employees, both on a personal and

collective basis. No normal human wants to feel that he was wantonly deafened by another—or that he has wantonly deafened another. [Well, I'm not sure about that. I'm not just sure that that isn't the case. Production is paramount.] In a broader sense, no employer wishes to have large groups of deafened employees, for they constitute a hazard to safe production, they lower production and ultimately a financial account must be rendered for the damage produced. If this account is not laid directly on the employer's desk, it must be paid by Ontario as a whole.

At present, the Workmen's Compensation Board is the sole judge of whether a man has been industrially deafened, the degree of impairment due to the deafness, and what, if any, financial compensation, retraining or prosthetic measures will be made available to the damaged workman. Since, in a way, the WCB acts as an indemnity company collecting premiums from industry and paying out on industry's behalf, their approach to the whole problem tends to be hold-the-line.

Recognizing that the Department of Health has indicated its interest in noise deafness through its noise assessment service and the mobile audiometric service made available to a limited number of industries in southern Ontario, the time has come for the department to become the arbitrator.

The Department of Health should state, in the light of present knowledge, that certain degrees of nerve deafness, regardless of aetiology, cause corresponding degrees of impairment for work, impairment of communication, impairment to social and sociological well-being. The standard method for prevention of noise-induced forms of deafness should be clearly outlined, just as it would be if the department were concerned with how to prevent an outbreak of rabies.

These are health matters. The WCB is then left with the clear-cut role of deciding whether a particular workman has lost his hearing from industrial causes or other causes.

In order to understand the magnitude of the problem and to fit it in with other social problems of our day, the Department of Health should research the personal and public loss occasioned by deafness as it pertains to decreased efficiency, loss of ability to work, loss of skilled labour, loss of income and early retirement,

adequacy of retirement benefits, cost of welfare and the price of human misery.

Other countries, in addition to this, are researching the probabilities of the relationship between noise damage and high blood pressure, vascular disease, asthma, arthritis and other stress diseases. Surely, we cannot afford to ignore the implications.

Finally, it would seem practical that much of the investigation must take place in the area that it occurs. Northern Ontario has most of the mines. The Mining Act does not even mention noise. An audiological unit with complete facilities for testing both in the fixed lab and on the job site should be available in the north. There should be information gathering personnel and information storage equipment, and all of this should be directed by a broad mandate from the Department of Health to discover the truth and apply the remedy as far as it is in our power to protect the health of the people of Ontario.

Now that's a pretty comprehensive statement by a specialist in the field. And I'm not sure if the minister is yet ready to answer.

But I want to go on, Mr. Minister, rather briefly on what happens to the man who is industrially deaf. I do so for a couple of reasons. One I've already hinted at: that the company tests a man when he starts and then it tests him later on and doesn't give him the results. And if he's forced to leave the job site, where in God's name does he get another job? Where does he get another job? What company is going to hire a deaf man today? Or any day, for that matter?

I have a number of cases that I want to use to indicate their problem. I will do it rather briefly, Mr. Minister. I want you to respond.

I have a Mr. Daniel Deroy. He has worked with Inco for 23 years, all of it underground. He has good health, takes no drugs, has had no balance problem except for the time of his accident 10 to 15 years ago. He sustained a severe blow to the side of his face which fractured his maxilla and left him with a slightly flattened face. He was hospitalized at the time for compensation purposes. He doesn't remember his ear bleeding but he remembers that his balance was badly upset and his hearing badly affected. His balance remained very unstable for a month and then he was examined by the Inco ear, nose and throat specialist at the time of the accident, who told him that his hearing was gone in his right ear.

Examination showed a scar in his right

eardrum. Tuning fork and audiogram tests confirmed that he has complete loss of hearing in his right ear and a moderately severe nervous deafness in his left. The hearing loss in his left ear would be of the type that is often associated with exposure to heavy industrial noise. [He notes that the hearing in his left ear has become progressively worse in the past three or four years.] Acoustic competence tests agree well with the audiogram on his left side.

From this history it is fairly obvious that he lost all of his hearing due to an industrial accident. If this had been recognized [as it appears to have been from the man's story] it is questionable whether he should have been allowed to return to a noisy work area [but he was]. He was, however, sent back to work and subsequently has lost a considerable degree of hearing in his left ear, probably due to noise exposure.

At the present time he should certainly not continue to work in any hazardous noise location which will mean a dislocation of his job and his wages. It may be possible that he may be retrained for some post where noise is not a major factor [if accepted by WCB]. I would suggest that a hearing aid be provided.

Where does he go? If he got a pension from the Workmen's Compensation Board it would be so minuscule, \$50, \$60, \$70 a month, and if he has to leave the work area, how does he support his family? Who is going to hire him? I know of no one.

Peter Dodds: This man has noted a gradual increase in hearing loss for 10 to 15 years. He has good health; no drugs; no chronic illness; no cardiac problems. He worked for Inco underground for 24 years. He had no injury. Examination shows both ears are normal in appearance. A trial with a hearing aid produced some benefit in his left ear and if it is accepted by WCB I feel he should be provided with one. This man absolutely cannot take the chance of spending any more time in a noisy environment as he has lost nearly all of his hearing.

How much more specific can it be? "This man absolutely cannot take the chance of spending any more time in a noisy environment as he has lost nearly all of his hearing."

I think it is very sad that these people are allowed to go to this extent before being picked up through a hearing programme, and they become almost totally deaf before it is discovered.

What kind of nonsense are we talking about? Where is all this testing we are doing to

which the minister alludes and the auditing of what the various mining companies have taken? Where have you been? In the wood-work as usual? In the corporate boardrooms?

I think it is very sad that these people are allowed to go to this extent before being picked up through a hearing programme. If the hearing programme is not adequate to do this, perhaps it should become a rule that these men spend only 10 years in an extremely noisy area.

This man is too young to retire unless his pension was sufficiently large to allow him to do so. On the other hand he is too old to retrain.

And he might get \$60 or \$70 a month from the Workmen's Compensation Board. The good doctor says:

I hope you will forgive me for exploding a little on this case but it is very difficult for a hearing conservationist to examine several men a day . . . [You note that, Mr. Minister] . . . several men a day who are industrially crippled and for whom there is no treatment.

Alphonse Labre: His deafness has been coming on for seven to 10 years. It is more pronounced in the right ear than the left. No history of drugs; good health. Worked almost 20 years, mostly with Falconbridge, except for a couple of years at Elliot Lake. Examined in 1970 and he had bilateral nerve deafness. He was advised at that time that noise was his problem and that if he could he should avoid it. He is not a good candidate for a hearing aid because of the distortion, however. His hearing loss does interfere with his ability to communicate both at work and socially.

The man has to make a decision. He cannot afford to quit for medical reasons for his pension would not support him. He probably cannot afford to take a lesser paying job, even if it were available, where noise is not a factor. And he cannot continue to do work that he is doing since he will undoubtedly become crippled by deafness. Probably retraining is the answer, providing, of course, someone will hire him.

Gerald Morin: This man has a hearing loss which was virtually unnoticed by him. He secured a trade as a welder and recently applied to Falconbridge for employment in this capacity. He was turned down because of his hearing. Good health; no balance problems; takes no drugs; no suggestion of trauma except when he worked for Inco for 2½ to three years in 1960 to 1962. At that time, he was in cut and fill

stopes and exposed to extremely high noise levels.

He states that his hearing was tested by Inco prior to employment and was normal. This is his only history of severe noise exposure. Audiograms show a bilateral nerve deafness. The point is that he is not sufficiently damaged to fall under the ordinary damage criteria for Workmen's Compensation Board. He is, however, sufficiently damaged that companies such as mining companies will not hire him, even in areas of under exposure.

He was deafened while working for them, he left the area, retrained, and ultimately tried to rehire on again and that's where the mine doctor comes in, Mr. Minister. "Hah," they say, "but you have got a slight degree of deafness, and we are not giving you a job." Even though mining companies were ultimately responsible for the industrial deafness he suffers today.

Where does he go?

An hon. member: He's expendable.

Mr. Martel: Right, he's expendable. You know, Mr. Minister, I could present, if you like, 80 cases, 90 cases, 100 cases, where they are deaf and they can't communicate with their families. I am told in discussions with doctors that it is one of the most difficult things for a person to adjust to. You become isolated right in your own home. Your children and your wife can't communicate with you. You are up in the air as to whether you should quit—and if you have got children at school, some of them may be in university. Some of these men are 40, 45; you can't afford to quit. You want to see your kids through school and you know full well that if you stay there you are going to go stone deaf.

What kind of a decision does a man like that make? He is cut off from communication or communicating with his family. He has a choice of retiring on \$60 or \$70 a month and his kids won't finish school.

Who is going to support his family, the benevolent mining companies that you talk about? He can quit and he can go on welfare because the amount of pension he is going to get is so minuscule that he has to go on welfare.

In fact, as I said the other day, there are a thousand on family benefits now that industry should be paying the shot for but it's the taxpayer of Ontario who, in fact, is supporting them.

Mr. Minister, I could talk about Alphonse

Bellefontaine or Robert Thibault or Albert Rossi who are all in this position but I really don't know what to say because each of these men is in that condition because of the failure of this ministry to include in the Mining Act, or even to establish, a meaningful programme to avert industrial deafness.

There are some moves that could be made, Mr. Minister. The first and most logical one, as I said the other day with respect to silicosis, is to get anything that relates to the health and safety of men out of this ministry and into the Ministry of Health forthwith where it would do the testing and the Workmen's Compensation Board would merely do the adjudicating.

We should also insist on a testing programme for every man and indicate to him every year whether his deafness is getting worse until he reaches a point of total deafness. We should use extreme caution, I am told, with men who have been exposed for 10 years or more. That's when the real problems start to show up.

We should ensure that the equipment being used to test the real noise levels is the most sophisticated equipment possible. The testing also should be done by someone other than the company, which is the case at the present time. We should also insist that when the men are being tested that the equipment is accurate and that the people doing the testing know what they are doing.

More importantly, we should be making an effort to reduce the noise levels. I shouldn't say more importantly, they are all important.

An interesting thing happened. In the stopes, they use these jumbos and some work was done a number of years ago to reduce the noise from the jumbos. I think there were two drills on a jumbo at that time and they got the noise reduced by eight or nine decibels but Inco immediately threw a third drill on the jumbo. That indicates their concern for safety; you get the noise reduced and then you put another drill on. That brings us back to square one.

A lot of effort by the company which was turning out that equipment went down the drain. You reduce the noise by eight or 10 decibels and then you add another drill. That makes a lot of sense. It's good for production.

Finally, Mr. Minister, when a man is deaf, this government some day is going to wake up to the need under the Workmen's Compensation Act that you don't base it on the degree of physical disability but on the ability to earn and when the ability to earn is completely gone, then in fact you give the

person a 100 per cent disability pension. Not as in the present case, where they say, "Well, the hearing loss may be 15 or 20 per cent;" and that's what you get—20 per cent of your income at the time it occurred. There is no relationship.

This government has got to recognize that some day. Whether it be back injuries in the mines or whether it be back injuries in industry, when a man's back is gone and he can't earn any more and he can't work any more, that's what you base it on. You don't base it on saying that he is physically only 20 per cent disabled. When you can't work, you can't work! But, no, not this government. They say it is based on your ability to earn. The degree of physical disability. It has no relationship.

When men are caught, like the six or seven cases that I just mentioned in passing, where they have the option to stay on the job so their hearing can be finished off properly and they can thus go stone deaf, or have the option to go out, invariably, Mr. Minister, they stay on the job. They know that they are condemning themselves to total deafness. But to ensure for as long as possible a steady income to raise their families and educate their kids, they condemn themselves. And this government and this ministry, because of its total lack of a policy surrounding noise, stands condemned. Now the minister can start answering some of the questions.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Haggerty, do you have something else to say?

Mr. Martel: Now wait a minute, Mr. Minister. No, no. I put forward a whole series of questions, Mr. Minister, and we are not moving away.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Does the hon. member for Welland South have something else?

Mr. Haggerty: I probably have something else, but not on this line here. I think there are other times that you can get into this in more detail. I think it deals with the department of environmental health section in Workmen's Compensation. I think I will leave my shots for that day.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, if I can just respond very briefly to the member for Cochrane South. I always enjoy his annual remarks with regard to the mining tax of the Province of Ontario. As one member put it the member for Cochrane South has his feet firmly planted in mid-air again when it comes to mining taxes. He flip-flops back and forth and we've seen it again for another year.

I think his approach was a little stronger this year. At least I know where he stands now and this may help me in the future.

I just want to say to him that we've moved, with regard to the increasing of mining taxes, very, very substantially. I think you will agree with that. In fact, our return will equal that of British Columbia if it doesn't slightly surpass it.

We have moved to taxing the profits on mines. It would be fair to say we examined very carefully the BC system which I think they will find to be very, very difficult to administer. In fact, there are certain parts of the BC approach which were not accepted by the Province of Manitoba in its wisdom and in its assessment of the overall approach to increased mining taxes.

Manitoba recognized that the BC system of taxation would lead to highgrading. They have put a special provision in their particular Act which would modify their Act to assist those companies that do not have a high grade of ore so that they would not encourage highgrading. So, if you look at the approach that Manitoba has taken and the approach Ontario has taken, you will see some real problems coming in the Province of British Columbia.

I just say that in passing because I think that we are on the right ground. I think we are taking our fair share that rightly belongs to the people of the Province of Ontario. This was spelled out in the budget speech given by the Treasurer himself.

Mr. Ferrier: If this is so, why are you going to be subject to blackmail then, even on your terms?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are not subject to blackmail at all. The Treasurer made it very, very clear that he expected X number of dollars return from the mineral resources of the Province of Ontario. He is going to get it and he is going to exceed that. That has been clearly established and we are not deviating from that one iota. The Treasurer has made this very, very clear on a number of occasions since making that budget address.

You made a slight reference to a Crown corporation. I think it is fair to say, and it was very clearly stated here again, that the intentions of this government are to move in this direction. Right at the present time, we are looking at a number of alternatives with regard to exploration, possibly an equity position with some mining companies; but at this point in time I don't know if we would

go so far as getting into the actual development ourselves.

Mr. Ferrier: When are you proposing to introduce this legislation?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Possibly late this fall by the time we work out all the details and examine all the other Crown corporations that are operating in Canada. I personally had a very careful look at the Soquem operation in Quebec. There are some very attractive points that they have introduced and they have operated under. We are looking very carefully at that.

I say to you that you are travelling a very, very narrow road. You are a northerner, as I am, and you are looking for maximum development and you are looking for the maximum amount of employment. You are looking for the maximum return for your people to improve the quality of life in these mining communities. We are all looking for these things. But you can only go so far—not that I am defending any major corporation—when I see some of these companies and the amount of Canadian investors that they have. Some people leave the impression that the profits from the mining companies go to two or three guys sitting in some boardroom down here on Bay St.—that they reap the profits themselves, pocket them, go to Las Vegas every week, gamble them away and really enjoy life. This is not the case at all. All these companies form part of an overall picture in which many Canadians and Ontarians—and I am sure there are men in this room—have shares in the mining companies in the province of Ontario.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): They have got their walls papered with them.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Germa: I hope they are not on your staff. Is that the problem with your staff, that too many have investments?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is not a return to a specific group of individuals. It's to investors at large. And those investments relate back to the general economy of the province.

Mr. Ferrier: Along with what you said about wanting to provide jobs in Ontario and development in our area, and so on, would you then consider a kind of taxation policy that would be scaled in the way that I think would make that section 113 much more effective in that those orders that are processed in this country would be taxed on a different basis than those that are going out

on an export permit with very little processing? Wouldn't that give you more control of the amount of potential jobs that we have in the mining industry around Ontario? We would have an opportunity therefore to direct through legislation or set the ground rules whereby we would get more development in our province and in our country. It would be more of an incentive to provide processing here.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's a fair statement and I would agree with it. That is another tool that could be used.

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I know the member for Cochrane South is always a fairly reasonable person and I don't think he wants to be out of order, but this is the Ministry of Revenue that you are discussing.

Mr. Martel: Since when?

Mr. Ferrier: Since when? It is right in the Mining Act.

Mr. Allan: But this ministry doesn't deal with taxing.

Mr. Martel: Sure it does. You are wrong.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We assess the mining tax but the Minister of Revenue actually collects it.

Mr. Allan: The Minister of Revenue collects it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And the Treasurer would set that type of policy for mineral development. He has a point and maybe it will be something that will be considered at some point in time.

I just want to say to you, with the changes in the mining tax that we have come up with, the major mining companies are upset—I'll accept that point—but I can assure you that many of their marginal mines will become stronger because of our shift to a graduated scale. We are hopeful that we will not see any highgrading; with the way the tax is designed, we don't think we will see any highgrading in the Province of Ontario. It will be a balanced mining operation but we will certainly be watching that very carefully.

With regard to the member for Sudbury East and his comments concerning noise control and noise levels in the mining industry, his constant reference to the fact that it is not incorporated in the Mining Act and his desire to accept responsibility in his posi-

tion as the member for Sudbury East, I would say to him that if he is that responsible, back in 1971 when the Mining Act was rewritten, in which he played a very major part, and was very vocal—

Mr. Laughren: It's your Act.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —he should well remember that there is a section in the Mining Act.

Mr. Martel: Show me the new Act; that's the old Act.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In 1971. It's right here.

Mr. Martel: That's the old Act.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's right here—section 173.

Mr. Martel: That's the old Act. The new Act is bound this way.

An hon. member: Except for part 9.

Mr. Martel: All right, tell me the page.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Page 20, section 173. Now, we'll just go a step further.

Mr. Martel: Section 20?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Section 173.

Mr. Martel: Section 173? I can't find it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think you've got the right—

Mr. Martel: I have the Mining Act, except part 9.

An hon. member: Is that part 9 there?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, this would be part 9.

Mr. Martel: No, that's the old Mining Act. That's the one we revised.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, 1970.

Mr. Martel: That's the one we revised.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, right here.

Mr. Martel: And here's the revision.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It was revised in 1970. The point I am trying to make—

Mr. Martel: Here's November's issue, November 1973, which I ordered from your office at the time I first raised this matter.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I have it right here; this is the bible of the mining industry right here,

governing practices and everything else in the operations of mines, dated 1971.

Mr. Martel: This is the one your office sent me. It says the Mining Act.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The point I am trying to make, and I am sure the other members of the committee will agree with it—

Mr. Martel: Where is it in this Act?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Jewett?

Mr. G. A. Jewett (Executive Director, Division of Mines): Mr. Martel, the Act you have in front of you is the Mining Act, except that it does not include part 9 of the Mining Act which is the part specifically dealing with the requirements governing the operations of mines—

An hon. member: The regulations.

Mr. Jewett:—being part 9 and sections 621, 624, 625 and 626, part 10, of the Mining Act. All the rules and regulations governing the operation of mines, under the Mining Act, are bound in this volume.

Mr. Martel: Yes.

Mr. Jewett: When that revision which you have in your hand was drafted there weren't any revisions in this part. There were changes in the law in other sections of the Act which required a rewriting as 73 at that time.

Mr. Martel: When I phoned over to your office and asked for a copy of the Mining Act dealing with safety, why did I get this?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know. I can't answer that question.

Getting back to the point I want to make; in 1970-1971, when the Mining Act was rewritten, and the member for Sudbury East played a very active role, it was agreed that certain aspects—

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): He has got egg on his face.

Mr. Carruthers: Didn't do your homework.

Hon. Mr. Bernier:—with regard to hearing should be incorporated in the Act at that point in time. I am saying that he was no better informed at that time than anyone else. And we accept that fact. Since that time there have been some major changes, some new thrusts, some new concerns expressed with regard to noise in the mining

industry. It's a whole new ball game and the member well knows that.

Mr. Martel: Why was it put in the Industrial Safety Act, 1971?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am telling you that the information we have—

Mr. Martel: It is right in the Industrial Safety Act.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right. But your—

Mr. Martel: And it's not in the Mining Act. You can't hang your hat on that.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You are coming into a whole new area, a whole complex issue of industrial safety problems with regard to noise. We accept that. That's why it wasn't stronger in the Act that you helped revise.

Mr. Martel: It was in here.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's right; and that's why. We have made changes.

Mr. Martel: If you will recall, Mr. Minister—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Martel: I just want to make a point. If you will recall I asked that everything in mining come—

Mr. Chairman: What is your point?

Mr. Martel:—under the Industrial Safety Act during the debate on that bill.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I want to establish, gentlemen, that there is something in the Mining Act regardless of what the member for Sudbury East says. I am sure—

Mr. Martel: I want to establish the other point.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Martel: I have it in writing that I asked this ministry to bring mining under the Industrial Safety Act on more than one occasion to this minister and to his predecessor and that was put on the record, if it was recorded during the debates on Bill 2, that I requested it come under the Industrial Safety Act then, so you can't hang your hat on that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The thing is that the member wasn't properly briefed, his research

wasn't that good and his memory wasn't that good either—

Mr. Martel: My memory is excellent.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —or he would have known that was there.

Mr. Martel: I phoned over to check if it was in the Act and here's what you've sent me.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Getting back to—

Mr. Martel: What does it say? Quote it for us.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Section 2 states:

The manager shall designate such other areas or occupations and circumstances or any or all the following items shall be worn by every person employed therein: an approved safety hat, approved safety footwear, approved eye protective equipment, approved hearing protective equipment, approved breathing apparatus, and other approved personal protective equipment which the job in question may require. The manager shall ensure that all steps practical are taken to prevent injury to the hearing of a person from excessive noise.

Mr. Martel: And what's it say about the—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's what is in the Act, gentlemen.

Mr. Martel: In section 111 of the Industrial Safety—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You weren't satisfied with that since that particular time.

Mr. Martel: Oh, don't be ridiculous. How do you account for the fact that in 1971 the Industrial Safety Act—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, I would like to adjourn this meeting.

Mr. Chairman: Order, gentlemen, I would like to adjourn—

Mr. Martel: You can't mislead the committee.

Mr. Chairman: I adjourn the committee for the vote—

Mr. Martel: He told the—

Mr. Chairman: Order!

Mr. Martel: Oh, take a pill.

Mr. Chairman: Order, if you can't—

Mr. Martel: He has misled this committee deliberately.

Mr. Chairman: I am going to adjourn the committee for the vote.

Mr. Martel: He has misled this committee deliberately.

Mr. Chairman: The committee is adjourned for the vote in the House.

It being 5:25 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

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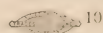
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Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1974

The committee resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES (continued)

On vote 2204:

Mr. Chairman: On items 1 and 2.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Would you repeat that thing about the Industrial Safety Act, the thing that tells us about safety in mining from industrial noise? Would you quote that section again?

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): I don't think it is necessary to quote the section. I am going to send over a copy of the handbook to the hon. member. He has done a lot of research on this particular project. He has made certain mistakes—

Mr. Martel: I made no mistakes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —and has certain weaknesses. There are many holes in his argument.

Mr. Martel: Well, you tell me where they are.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: His credibility has been shot down but I will present it to him anyway, personally.

Mr. Martel: I want the minister to tell me, personally, where it is full of loopholes. Would you quote the section of the Act? I want to read it for myself where it talks about industrial noise.

An hon. member: What section was that?

Mr. Martel: Page 20.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, I listened with interest as the hon. members were speaking, elaborating for some two hours. I would hope that same courtesy would be extended to me.

Mr. Martel: Right. I just want to know which page this section of industrial safety is on.

Mr. Chairman: Would you mind giving the minister the same courtesy?

Mr. Martel: I intend to.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you.

Mr. Martel: I just want to find the section that spells out the matters pertaining to industrial noise in the Act because I am having some difficulty locating it.

Mr. M. C. Germa (Sudbury): It is a one-liner.

Mr. Martel: Now, what I see here and maybe I am wrong, is that it says, "For personal protective equipment in clothing the manager shall designate such other areas or occupations and circumstances where any or all of the following items shall be worn by every person employed therein: approved safety hats, approved safety footwear, approved eye protective equipment, approved hearing protective equipment."

If that is what the minister is saying spells out the terms or indicates, at all, the criteria with respect to exposure to noise; if he is resting his hat on that, then, in fact, he has deliberately misled the committee because that item 173 deals with personal protective equipment in clothing and does not deal with industrial noise, whatsoever.

Not one jot is mentioned with respect to the amount of noise a man can be exposed to over any prolonged period of time. Nothing! These are only the various items of safety equipment that will be provided. The minister is not really resting his case on that, is he? You're not that desperate?

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): Devious.

Mr. Martel: Oh yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, I take it that the member has completed his remarks.

Mr. Martel: No, no. I have a whole series of questions I wanted to let the minister reply to.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. member will give the minister the courtesy to reply and to finish his remarks.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: All I can say is I will ask the member to refer to section 3 where it says, "The managers will ensure that all steps practical are taken to prevent injury to the hearing of a person from excessive noise."

Now that is very, very broad and I said in my earlier remarks that we at that time were not completely satisfied. It was obvious from the information that was available that more had to be done.

If you looked at the Acts of the provinces of British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Quebec and Manitoba, you would find that they were not as strong as that of the Province of Ontario. Not a bit stronger; not a bit different. In fact, our Act, at that point in time, from the information that was available, was stronger than any of theirs.

I wrote the member, I just don't have the date offhand, but I did write the member and indicated to him that as of July 1, we were coming in with a noise control and hearing protection code. This has been distributed to all the mining companies and our staff has been alerted to it.

I can relate to some of the points that the members raised. The requirements will be that occupational noise exposure shall be controlled so that no workman shall be exposed in excess of the limits shown in the table.

The table is as in the Industrial Safety Act, 1971. There is one change that the duration per day is eight hours at 90 decibels and it goes down to six at 92; 4 hours at 95 decibels; three hours at 97 decibels; two hours at 100 decibels; 1.5 hours at 102 decibels; one hour at 105 decibels; $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour at 107 decibels; $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour at 110 decibels; $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour at 115 decibels. It is a little tighter and a little stronger than what is in the Industrial Safety Act.

This will come into force on July 1 and it is the result of new information that's become available to us. I think it is fair to say that up to this point in time we have not been able—because of the lack of reliable testing equipment and the availability of testing equipment—to do the testing to which the hon. member refers.

We have this information now; we have the equipment available to us, and the equipment that will be used is of the Canadian Standard Z107.1 and it's the specification for sound level meters, type 2.

It will be available to all the inspectors

throughout the province. They will do the testing of all areas in a working mine and that information will be available to the employee. I make that very plain and clear so that there is no misunderstanding.

If an employee wishes to know what the noise level is in his particular area and there is an inspection going on and if he requests it, he will be provided with that information.

I think the member made it abundantly clear as to the difficulty there is in providing the exact noise level calculations. He referred to the heat, the temperature in a particular area, the various rooms, the size of the rooms and the ceiling content. There are a number of things that have a direct reflection on the noise level that will exist in a specific area. These are difficult things. We're working with them very carefully. We're working very closely with the people who come up with the testing equipment. As the member pointed out, they should be calibrated on a daily basis because they're that sensitive, that complex.

I'm sure that when the member sees the code that we'll be using as of July 1, he'll find it is the strongest in Canada today. In fact, we are following the Province of British Columbia which brought in a similar code in December, 1973. We are the second province in Canada to bring in a noise control and hearing protection code. To say that we're lagging behind and that we're dragging our feet is just not acceptable to me really, because it's a complex issue and it's a difficult area to be testing. We're moving ahead in it.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. It's difficult, but how do you arrive at 90 decibels? I mean, who pulls this out of mid-air and out of the sky and says this is it?

Mr. Martel: It came out of the Walsh-Healey Act.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The industrial organization for standardization. This came out in 1971. It's not something that has been lying around in the books and in the records for a number of years.

Mr. J. F. Foulds (Port Arthur): Just three.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There has been something there. The equipment to which the members refer to measure these noise levels just wasn't available at that point in time. Now it is, and we're moving on it. I might say that we've recommended to the Min-

istry of Health that when they do the individual x-rays of the miners on an annual basis that they also do a hearing test, and that that information, together with the x-ray information, be given to the individual miner or the individual employee.

I think it's fair to say, Mr. Chairman, that we are moving on this particular issue. We are well aware of the complexity of it. I think it's also fair to say that the Workmen's Compensation Board has come to realize that it's an area that is compensable. This is shown by the number of claims and the number of claims that they have honoured. We don't intend to be lax in our approach to this particular matter. In fact, now that we have the information and the equipment to test the noise levels, we will proceed as expeditiously as we can to make the working conditions as acceptable as possible.

Mr. Haggerty: Does Workmen's Compensation Board cover the loss of hearing or just cover the replacement of hearing aids?

Mr. Martel: Loss of hearing.

Mr. Haggerty: I don't know.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think there's a cash payment. I'm not knowledgeable on that really.

Mr. Haggerty: I'm not sure of that because I worked on a claim and it was said that all it would pay for was the hearing aid.

Mr. Martel: No.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): If the hearing loss is sufficient, they will grant a pension.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, but it's not much.

Mr. Ferrier: If it's of a certain nature they'll get it monthly, and if it's below a certain level they'll get a lump sum.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: But it's pretty hard to prove, in the sense that there has been no monitoring done in a certain industry.

Mr. Ferrier: If the exposure has taken place since 1947 they will grant it. If the hearing loss is there they will grant it. There's no question about it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The pension is based on that. I'm not sure of that. It's something you may want to bring up before the Ministry of Labour.

Mr. Haggerty: I intend to pursue it further with the Workmen's Compensation Board.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would add further, Mr. Chairman, that portable testing and training equipment is now moving out through the mining community in the form of trailers for training the various people, testing the miners and starting the process of controlling noise levels in the mining industry.

Mr. Haggerty: If you're going to bring in all this type of inspection, where do you have the personnel to cover it in your estimates and votes here? You don't have too much of an increase for it. I feel that perhaps this is where your department again is falling back. We don't have a sufficient number of inspectors down in the mines or throughout the smelting industries in Ontario. I feel that you should have additional money in here to provide for that type of inspection.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think this is a very valid question. It's a practice that's used in every jurisdiction. Every jurisdiction and every governing body and every province in Canada and every country place the onus upon the industry itself to do this work. They again monitor, test and audit all these situations and these tests that are conducted. We do have unannounced spot checks on a regular basis.

Mr. Haggerty: But spot checks are not enough, though, are they?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think if we had to have an inspector for every item—

Mr. Haggerty: Does anybody from your staff—the inspectors or anyone—go down and make the check themselves after they get a report?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, they do.

Mr. Haggerty: And they follow them up pretty closely?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, they do.

Mr. Haggerty: From all the indications that have been thrashed out here in the last couple of days, it doesn't—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I took this up with my staff—

Mr. Haggerty: —indicate that they do, though.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —during the interval, and they assured me beyond the shadow of a doubt that when they take tests they are

unannounced. They don't go in and phone up the mining company and tell it they are going to take a test in a specific area on a specific subject on a particular day. They don't do that. They go to a company, but obviously the message gets around that they are in the area doing this type of thing. But they don't particularly announce—

Mr. Haggerty: The men who are working in the uranium mines, particularly should be carrying their own type of monitoring system. What do you call it, Elie? They are working with isotopes and they carry a little—

Mr. Germa: Geiger counters.

Mr. Haggerty: —Geiger counter, I guess you would call it, to take the readings of radiation that is perhaps exceeding the normal level for the area. Take the case of Hydro workers. If you were to go into the Pickering plant, each one of the workers would have one. In fact, I think on the day we went in to look that plant over, each one of us had a little indicator to tell us how much radiation was floating around.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask Mr. Jewett to comment, as he is more informed on the subject than I am.

Mr. G. A. Jewett (Executive Director, Division of Mines): I am informed that the meters you are mentioning have been tried, but they are neither sensitive nor accurate. Now, very recently, within the last two years, there has been under test a personal sample in which the dust exposure for a man over an eight-hour period is recorded. I think there are something like 10 of these recorders in use in the province now and we are giving them exhaustive tests in the mines? Very likely, if they are successful, then their use will be encouraged and expanded, but this technology of instrumentation in measuring readings is just in the development stage right now.

Mr. Haggerty: That's kind of hard to accept, because I understand that the US Department of Mines has the type of testing equipment that each individual can carry around with him in a mine, and this equipment is checked day by day.

Mr. Jewett: This equipment is not accurate at the exposure level of the mines at Elliot Lake.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you mean to tell me that the mines in Elliot Lake are different from the mines in Colorado?

Mr. Jewett: They are about a half or a third as rich. In other words, there is two to three times as much uranium in a ton of ore in the mines of Colorado than in the average mine of Elliot Lake.

Mr. Haggerty: I thought the mines were pretty rich up here, 238—

Mr. Martel: They have draeger meters, for example, for SO₂ and if the men are caught with them, they are fired. They carry them around in their lunch buckets and test here, there or anywhere. Testing is not as prevalent as it used to be, because you have a monitor in the mine now, but to break the back of that, the men had to take draeger meters in with them. If they were caught with them, they were fired. That's how we got some of the readings which ultimately led to the ministry putting its own monitor in. Again, there was no help.

I want to go back, Mr. Minister, about 10 points or so.

Mr. Chairman: Had you concluded, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I pretty well answered most of the member's comments.

Mr. Martel: Did you send a list of the regulations to the unions, might I ask then, Mr. Minister? You indicated that you sent that material to the various mining corporations, did you send a copy, by any chance, to the unions whose members are employed in the mines?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am just told that it went out to the unions, but we will make sure a copy goes out to them immediately. I will make sure that all the members of this committee get a copy.

Mr. Martel: Thank you, I appreciate that. But, you know, just once—

Mr. Haggerty: Is the ink dry on that?

Mr. Martel: —it would be nice when the companies are being notified that the ministry would see to it that the unions would get the same information. It is everything you deal with. Why would you send it out to the mines and not automatically send it to the representative of the employees?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I want to make a point, Mr. Chairman, if I could. We have been meeting with the representatives of the unions on a fairly regular basis; and I think in the last few months we have met more than on a regular basis. This is one inquiry—

Mr. Martel: I want to ask you one question, though. If you send out that information to the mining officials, why wouldn't you send it out automatically to all the miners?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Very good point, Elie. I accept the responsibility for not having sent it out, and I will make sure it gets out to them.

Mr. Martel: All right. Now my second point: Have you got, as I requested in my earlier correspondence, a list of areas of overexposure to noise levels at Inco and Falconbridge that I could have?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No. I think it is fair to say that up until this point in time we as a ministry have not been making noise level calculations.

Mr. Martel: Oh, on many occasions I have asked for areas of overexposure with respect to noise. I listed four or five of them this afternoon. What has always bothered me in the replies I have received is that all was well. Whether it was in the hoist room, underground or in the oxygen room, I always received a report that everything was well, that it wasn't an area of overexposure.

Since that is not available, I will come back to that point. But, Mr. Minister, you say that everything is new and is just coming in. I spelled out rather carefully today—I didn't exaggerate—what was going on.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: On those points you didn't. On those points you very carefully—

Mr. Martel: That's right. I pointed out facts.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —pointed out how complex and how difficult the situation was—

Mr. Martel: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —and I appreciate that.

Mr. Martel: But I am still amazed, Mr. Minister, that the Industrial Safety Act had this as early as 1971. I am not sure if it went in there sooner, but they had it completely spelled out in 1971. If the Ministry of Labour saw fit to apply it to the Industrial Safety Act in 1971, why would it be that the Ministry of Natural Resources now says that the equipment is so relatively new, the whole field is so relatively new, and it is only in 1974, at least three years after it was put in the Industrial Safety Act, that you are now introducing it?

It is interesting that you talk about British

Columbia. That is a new government. They have only been there less than two years and they have it in.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I referred to all the other provinces—

Mr. Martel: Outside of British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec, the other provinces don't have the mining industry that we have.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Manitoba does.

Mr. Martel: Oh, not nearly—only some.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I just want to interject here to say that the regulations of the Industrial Safety Act, in which these were laid out in detail, were published in June, 1972, so it was about a year later. As soon as we got this information we started working on it immediately, getting the facts and the material together.

Mr. Martel: But you still—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The code has been pulled together, and the information was sent out in February of this year, which would indicate that it was just about a year after. But I think it is working in a reasonable length of time.

Mr. Martel: If your colleague, the Minister of Labour (Mr. Guindon), had it all worked out in 1972—I don't know when it went in, this is the June, 1972, edition; I said that this afternoon, not to mislead anyone either, but it is the Industrial Safety Act, 1971, which was printed in June. If they had become aware of this problem two years ago, and with all the background work that they would have done before introducing it, surely your ministry can't say you were starting from scratch when, in fact, everything was laid out by your colleague, the Minister of Labour, in his Act.

One of the reasons why I recommended, during the debate on Bill 2, that the Industrial Safety Act be applied to mining is that I don't see why the plant at Port Colborne should come under the Mining Act and not under the Industrial Safety Act. Nor do I see why the Minister of Labour cannot go in, when there is new construction on the surface at a mine, to see that the Ontario Construction Safety Act is being observed properly. He doesn't have jurisdiction in there. From the gate in it comes under the Mining Act and the Construction Safety Act that was brought into force last year does not apply. The Minister of Labour, with his trained staff for construction safety inspec-

tion, in fact has no jurisdiction in the mines, or in a smelter, or in a plant in Port Colborne, Hamilton or Sault Ste. Marie. He doesn't go in.

Why in God's name that's allowed to happen, I'll never know because he has the expertise in construction safety. Your people supervise it and that's ridiculous, totally ridiculous, because he has the people who are trained and skilled in that field. Why Port Colborne comes under the Mining Act is something I'll never understand, Mr. Minister, just never. It has nothing to do with mining.

As for the testing equipment you say is now becoming available, your colleague had some of that equipment available, too, in order to apply this in 1972. Why it has simply become available to you people now, as Mr. Jewett says, again is something I fail to understand.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think it's become available at this point in time. I would point out to you that we've been working on this since late 1972 and in that period we think we've come up with a much stronger code, more adaptable to the mining industry than the Industrial Safety Act. We're very convinced of that.

Mr. Martel: Your people are going to do all the testing, if I understand you correctly. At least from square 1, to determine where the noise areas are.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Martel: How are you going to do the calculation, let's say, with equipment, both the plugs and the earmuffs which, I'm told, can reduce noise levels by 20 or 25 decibels, when wearing safety glasses can reduce their effectiveness by at least five per cent? We're still talking about noise exposures, if my information is correct with respect to Inco and the stopes, of 118 to 121. We're still talking about 97 decibels.

How are we ever going to enforce it so that the mining companies won't force the men to work beyond three hours? There are going to have to be some criteria laid down on how much efficiency there is in earmuffs and plugs when one wears safety glasses, for example. That's all going to have to be spelled out so the men know the reading in this stope is 118, you reduce it by 20 to 25 decibels but if you're wearing safety glasses you've lost five per cent, so that even with protective devices you're working in an area of 97;

therefore, you only have to work there for three hours.

It really doesn't have to work that way. I'm told if one works for five minutes, then turns the equipment off for five minutes it will accomplish the same result. Apparently that doesn't happen. How is that going to be spelled out?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask Mr. Jewett to answer that technical question.

Mr. Jewett: Referring to the data published by the ILS, it's apparent that the effectiveness of earmuffs varies according to the frequency of the sound. Earmuffs are most effective on high frequency sound, which apparently is the most damaging, and will remove as many as 40 decibels at the middle frequency of around 2,000 cycles. This put on top of a normal rock drill noise pattern should bring the noise level of a typical rock drill down to the 95-decibel range.

Mr. Martel: Yes.

Mr. Jewett: We've considered those aspects of it. As you were pointing out, in the calculation of noise exposure in the noise code we've provided for the addition of exposure from different types and at different times during a shift. We have established a calculation which allows the determination of a man's total threshold limit value for the day.

Mr. Martel: We're at loggerheads then, Mr. Jewett—and again I don't know where we stand now—because my information is that earplugs and muffs will reduce it only by 20 or 25 decibels.

Mr. Jewett: I am just referring to the—

Mr. Martel: Right. I accept your word. I'm not questioning that. I'm questioning the difference of opinion of leading medical people in this field.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It shows how complex the issue is.

Mr. Martel: I'm not saying it's simple. I think it is extremely difficult.

Mr. Jewett: And a great deal has to be done on it, too.

Mr. Martel: No, we are still not out of the woods. The next point I wanted to raise is what do we do with the men who are already affected from two or three different points of view? If he has to leave the place of work, the area of overexposure, we have

to get him to a place where there is no noise, that is below 90 decibels. How do we beat that one so that these men can go on supporting their families and educating their kids, as all the rest of us want to do? If they are not going to be moved and they are forced to a compensation pension, which is \$80 or \$90 a month based on the degree of disability, they end up on welfare.

What do we do? How do we reach some agreement or some accord with the mining companies that will see these men taken and given jobs of underexposure?

If we don't, we condemn them to two options. They either stay in the place and go stone deaf, totally deaf, to continue as long as possible, or they are turfed out on the streets. They take a very small pension and no one else is going to employ them.

Something has got to be done with that, Mr. Minister. It's why I asked you earlier today if you think we haven't reached the epidemic proportion in Sudbury, because my information is that we have not even started to scratch the number of claims in Sudbury. There has got to be a decision with respect to these men, who are 40, 42, 43 or 44 years old. There has got to be some move either to compensate them adequately or get them work in a different part of the company. I don't know. We just can't let it sit.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: On that point, it's a very good point, because we have a very serious concern for those people who are affected too. We are not embarking on a more rigid testing programme. Now that we have a noise code for the first time—and we are the second province in Canada to have one—once we start applying that I think a lot of these things will fall in line. We don't intend to treat it lightly because now we know the seriousness of it. It may well be that we will turn up many more cases than those to which you refer. I know we will. I have that gut feeling that we will turn up many more cases.

This is something where we are going to have to sit down with the Compensation Board and get their concurrence. And they are going to have to rally to the situation really well. Our responsibility will be to make sure that these conditions are made known to the employees and to the mine operators to change these situations.

Mr. Martel: I think with a code that is adhered to, my advice or my information is that we can prevent every industrial deaf

case from occurring in future. That's okay from here on. From this point on we'll protect men to some degree. But we've got that whole group now, and I only gave you six or seven cases to show you the bind they are in, either to remain in the area to continue to support their families as long as possible or be out on the street. What do we do with that group which we know are deaf or going deaf and should be removed from the area of overexposure now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I was saying that as we apply the code and be more forceful with it, I think we will flush all those people out.

Mr. Haggerty: That's what I am afraid of. You are liable to flush them right out on the street.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I don't think so. No.

Mr. Haggerty: I just want to follow along the matter the member is dealing with here. The member is trying to bring to your attention that many companies in Ontario usually have their own pension plan. You can go in with a good medical examination. I'll tell you many of these plants have a tougher medical examination than the army does. These persons are employed then for a period of up to 10 years. I believe one large company in the Nickel Belt area and in the Port Colborne area, International Nickel Co., have provisions under their pension scheme that if you have some degree of disability they will search that out before you are there 10 years because they don't want you after 10 years if you have some degree of disability.

I can see many persons who are going to be flushed out on the streets under this type of inspection. I hope when the minister does the inspection he sees that these persons are still maintained or still have a job with the company.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think that is something that we can take the responsibility of making sure the Minister of Labour is made well aware of and the Workmen's Compensation Board.

Mr. Haggerty: He could be discriminated against for this.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Haggerty: And yet it's caused through the operations.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We certainly don't want that. We don't want to be part and parcel

of that at all. We want no part of it at all. I would just make one point. I speak of my own particular area where I have many railroaders working. I have cases of noise causing ear damage right now among engineers working on the railroad in the new diesels that are coming out. There is a problem there very similar to what is occurring in mining and what has occurred in the mining industry over the years. So it is not totally confined to the mining industry. It is right across industry as a total.

An hon. member: That's right.

Mr. Martel: But as I say, we can apply it now and prevent anything from occurring but we have a whole raft out there of we don't know how many. You allow the company, Mr. Minister, to take the tests before they are employed, don't you?

An hon. member: Yes.

Mr. Martel: You allow the company to determine whether they will get the pensions. I have three cases I was going to bring up, but I am not going to bother because my colleagues want to get in. One of them is a back injury. He has a Canada pension for a permanent disability. The company doctor says "No, he doesn't have a permanent disability." But the chief neurosurgeon in the Sudbury area, Dr. Sutherland, says the man is totally disabled, and Inco won't give him his pension.

Who adjudicates for the man? This is the difficulty. The company says, "We are not going to give you a pension," even though he has a neurosurgeon as eminent as Dr. Sutherland in Sudbury and even though the Canada Pension's people have given the man a total disability allowance. The company says, "No, our doctors say he is not disabled," and they won't give him a pension. But you have Canada Pension and Dr. Sutherland, the neurosurgeon, both saying he is totally disabled. Inco says, "No, he won't get his pension." There is no one there to bring it to a head.

I have been fighting with them over these cases now for several years. One George Bodson, whom my colleague from Sudbury knows well, has had two back fusions. But the company says, "No, he is not disabled." Everybody else, except the company doctor, says he is. There is too much power given to the company doctors.

That is why my colleague from Timmins and I argued about the company doctor, who

might be a general practitioner, who overrules an independent outside specialist. Under the Mining Act the company doctor has the final say, even though specialists disagree with him, and you allow that to perpetuate. I just don't think that you should allow a general practitioner's word to take precedence over a specialist, but you keep fighting it.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Chairman, I have been listening to this all afternoon, up until now, and something that comes to my mind that I have very great difficulty in understanding is, where are the unions in this discussion? Do you not have discussions with the unions?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Allan: Do the unions not come to you with these complaints?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If they have something they usually come to us, yes. This is what I said earlier, before we rose at supper time.

Mr. Foulds: And they get ignored by the mines.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If they have a problem we—

Mr. Allan: But the unions are the people who deal with management, aren't they?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right. And we have an open-door policy with those fellows. Really we do. If they have a problem they can come to us.

Mr. Allan: And are they satisfied with what you are doing?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes they are. Yes they are.

Mr. Martel: I need to put a letter that just came to me today, Jim, on the record.

Mr. Allan: Well I—Oh, well.

Mr. Martel: I just want to put a letter that came to me today on the record.

Mr. Allan: Well, let me say a few words now. You had two hours—

Mr. Martel: If you just give me an opportunity to put this—

Mr. Allan: Will you just wait until I am finished please?

Mr. Martel: All right, don't get excited. I will have a rest.

Mr. Allan: Please. You know, I have listened to some of these things this afternoon. For instance, saying that the Workmen's Compensation Board would determine the condition of the person—that doesn't happen.

Mr. Martel: It certainly does.

Mr. Allan: It does not. The employee has a perfect right to choose his own doctor.

Mr. Martel: Nonsense.

Mr. Chairman: Order, one at a time.

Mr. Allan: That's right.

Mr. Martel: You don't know what you are talking about.

Mr. Allan: I do know what I'm talking about.

Mr. Martel: He chooses his own doctor but the final assessment of the degree of disability is made by the compensation board—your pensions department. You'd better learn what is going on.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Allan: You said that the Workmen's Compensation Board determined the condition of the employee.

Mr. Martel: Of the disability.

Mr. Allan: That isn't so.

Mr. Martel: Of the disability.

An hon. member: They do.

Mr. Allan: They don't.

Mr. Martel: They've got a medical pensions board.

Mr. Allan: They do not, and whether they do or not, this isn't the place to be discussing the Workmen's Compensation Board. That should be discussed in the Labour Ministry's estimates.

An hon. member: Right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think Mr. Allan has a very good point and, also, I may have slipped up in reading the Mining Act but I don't see anything in there that says that the company doctor has the final word. I think you made mention of that. Maybe I'm wrong, Mr. Jewett; am I wrong on that?

Mr. Jewett: I don't think so.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think there is anything in the Mining Act that gives the

company doctor that kind of power, really. I think you made reference to that.

Mr. Allan: I just can't believe that with unions as sophisticated as the unions are in the Sudbury area and with the leadership that they have, which is as fine as any in the country, that they don't have something to do with the agreements that are made with the companies.

An hon. member: They do.

Mr. Allan: And that they don't make demands. I'm very surprised that all these complaints come from politicians rather than from the representatives of the employees.

Mr. Martel: You might be surprised to learn that under this Act the prerogative for all safety rests with management.

An hon. member: They have no say.

Mr. Martel: It rests totally with management.

Mr. Allan: I don't know about the agreements. But I'd be very surprised if the company has all the say in relations with the employees, and that the unions haven't looked after the welfare of their employees. If the unions haven't looked after the welfare of their employees or their members I'd be very surprised.

Mr. Foulds: Why can't miners have the same advantages as the unions which come under the Industrial Safety Act?

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, under this Act, mine safety is the sole and total prerogative of the mining companies.

Mr. Allan: I don't know about that Act, but I'll be surprised if the unions don't feel their members are protected.

Mr. Martel: The minister has files knee deep on complaints by the union.

Mr. Allan: Well, it is strange if you have them that the minister doesn't.

Mr. Laughren: He has them.

Mr. Martel: He has them.

Mr. Allan: Do you not believe the minister?

Mr. Martel: I get copies of the bloody letters.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Wait a minute; now, I think it is unfair to say that we don't act

on those complaints. As I said earlier we have an open-door policy in our ministry; if they have a problem they are free to come in and discuss it with us.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): No but the member just said he'd be surprised if you got any; obviously you are getting them.

Mr. Martel: Are you getting complaints from the unions?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I would hesitate to guess how many we have had in the last year.

Mr. Martel: What, complaints?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But there have been not so many as to warrant what the member has indicated.

Mr. Martel: Oh, come on.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If you listened to the member for Sudbury East you'd think we had a dozen complaints a day; this is not so. It is not.

Mr. Martel: You are misleading again, Mr. Minister; you get complaints almost weekly from Colin Lambert.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I get more complaints from you than any other union or any other member in this Legislature.

Mr. Martel: Right, because the unions come to me when they get fed up trying to get the changes or the improvements from you.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No sir!

Mr. Martel: Oh yes they do.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't accept that.

Mr. Martel: And that includes the United Steelworkers in Sudbury, the Rock and Tunnel Workers and the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.

Mr. Allan: I wouldn't know why, when you have an open door, that the unions wouldn't come to you with their complaints.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right, they do.

Mr. Martel: I'm going to give you a typical complaint.

Mr. Allan: I don't think there is any difference in the feeling of the members of this committee. They all want to see everything done for the employees of the mines that can

be done, to make their employment satisfactory—

Mr. Martel: Well, here is the—

Mr. Allan: —and it isn't left to a couple of persons to take the part of those people. I am just as interested and have just as much interest in the welfare of those men as anyone would, and that would be true of everyone.

Mr. Martel: You know, I make it all up, Jim.

Mr. Allan: And I would suggest—

Mr. Martel: I stay up nights writing little stories.

Mr. Allan: Elie, did you ever think about keeping quiet for a while?

Mr. Martel: No, not when somebody is so foolish.

Mr. Allan: Do you know I could have been yelping at you all afternoon, if it was just waiting for someone who was saying something that was foolish.

Mr. Martel: It is all documented.

Mr. Allan: By whom? You gave a great discourse and you read a long letter about someone who had great qualifications in the area of sound. You didn't tell us who he was—

Mr. Martel: I deliberately didn't tell you.

Mr. Allan: Of course you didn't. Why didn't you?

Mr. Martel: Because I am working—

Mr. Allan: You say you documented it. You didn't document it at all.

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): He doesn't give a damn from hell.

Mr. Allan: You never documented it.

Mr. Martel: Listen to the jackals.

Mr. Allan: You didn't tell us—

Mr. Martel: Are you disputing it?

Mr. Allan: —whether he was a caretaker at the mine, whether he was a doctor—

Mr. Martel: No, he's an ear specialist.

Mr. Allan: That wasn't what you told us; no, not in that long letter you read.

Mr. Martel: That's from a hearing specialist.

Mr. Allan: You didn't tell us that.

Mr. Martel: I sure did.

Mr. Allan: I didn't hear you.

Mr. Martel: I sure did. You had better check Hansard.

An hon. member: He is a chiropractor.

An hon. member: You had better check it in the morning.

Mr. Martel: No, I don't have to.

Mr. Allan: You know, it seems to me, Mr. Minister, that if a person is really interested in the welfare of these employees that what we should be doing is trying to make suggestions to you that are worthwhile and bring results and improve conditions. Now, that's what I think we should be working on.

Mr. Germa: First of all, we have to convince the minister that there's something wrong.

Mr. Allan: I think the minister is anxious to improve conditions, just as well as we are.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is no argument about that.

Mr. Martel: Have we reached epidemic proportions in the Sudbury area with 80 cases established last year and 40 cases still before the board? Shouldn't you call in the occupational health people?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am not qualified to say what an epidemic is or what an epidemic isn't, really. I am just concerned that we have a noise code now that we are going to enforce. After some years of study, we have got the facts before us. We have got the equipment to test the noise levels and with the people trained we are getting on with the job.

Mr. Martel: How many cases are necessary, Mr. Minister, before you bring in the occupational health people? We have got 80 established for last year alone, 40 more before the board and only 18 rejected in one year before the Compensation Act—

Mr. L. Maeck (Parry Sound): Are they all from mines?

Mr. Martel: They are all from the mines.

Mr. Ferrier: Proportionately there are as many in the Timmins area.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): Well, we have people in my area.

Mr. Martel: Now that's one area—

Mr. Ferrier: Do they have loss of hearing from industrial noise?

Mr. Martel: How many cases is it going to take for you to call in—

Mr. Root: Are you sure it's industrial noise or in the Nickel Range? I was in there one night and they hit those drums and it would knock the ears off anybody and a hell of a lot of miners were sitting in there.

Mr. Ferrier: Dr. Alberti, a specialist in Toronto, is branding them as hearing loss.

Mr. Stokes: What were you doing in there? It's unusual for a Baptist to be in there.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Martel: No, wait a minute; I am asking the minister a series of questions. I want to know how many cases have got to be—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, that's just like asking me when I stopped beating my wife. It's that kind of a question.

Mr. Martel: You said in your letter to me if the number of cases was sufficient, you would call in the industrial health people. I want to know how many cases have to be established before you do that? Because, you see, the testing in the mines is only one half of the programme. It's the testing of the men themselves that's needed; and your people don't have the equipment. And it's the giving of the results of the second test.

You are willing to give the test results in the mines to the men, and we appreciate that; but it's the testing of the men and how much they lose from one year to next year that we must know. Because they continue to work in areas of overexposure; and that's where it involves the environmental health people coming in. And that's what I want to know—when we are going to get them in so we can assess how many of those men are gradually going deaf year by year. That's what I am trying to find out.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I think I made that point, Mr. Chairman, when I said that we had recommended to the Ministry of Health that when they do their annual x-rays of the miners that they include a test on their hearing as part of that annual review and that annual examination.

Mr. Martel: You have to have—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And that will show it up.

Mr. Martel: You have to have a totally soundproof room to do the testing. You don't have that in the health unit in Sudbury. There is only one place in Sudbury which does that and that is Dr. Andrews' and Dr. Pearsall's laboratory. That is the only place. One of the problems with the tests being conducted on the employees by Inco now, where control is necessary, is that a truck might drive by while they are sitting in the van where they are conducting the tests.

I want to know about bringing in the health people so that we can assess the degree of loss each man has now and compare it so that if it continues to go downhill we put a stop to it. We say to the company, "Gentlemen, that man can't go into that area any more or he is going to go totally deaf." The one part without the second half is a waste of time.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is what I am saying. It was part of our recommendation to the Ministry of Health that those types of facilities be established at all x-ray centres for the miners. It is part of an overall package, to do the two together.

Mr. Martel: You are going to do the two together?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is our recommendation to the Ministry of Health.

Mr. Martel: You don't know whether or not the ministry has accepted that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know. I really don't know but it is a very strong recommendation from our ministry.

Mr. Martel: And the results—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's the result of the studies and the noise code we are bringing into force on July 1.

Mr. Martel: The results will be given to the men, of the increased loss in deafness?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, they will.

Mr. Martel: So that they have an option. It is at this stage I agree with Mr. Allan that it is a compensation problem. The assessment is done by the compensation pensions board—

Mr. Allan: The assessment is done—

Mr. Martel: By the board.

Mr. Allan: —by the compensation board—

Mr. Martel: Right.

Mr. Allan: —but the assessment is based on the reports of independent doctors.

Mr. Martel: No, they do their own assessment there. They bring a man in—

Mr. Allan: It is strange they do there because in any experience I have had with the board the employee chooses his own doctor.

Mr. Martel: Right, but for pension purposes—

Mr. Allan: All the board requires is that he be qualified in the field where he is going to make a judgement.

Mr. Martel: But for pension purposes—

Mr. Ferrier: When it comes to a pension, though, for a hearing loss in particular they always send them to Dr. Alberti at Sunnybrook or Mt. Sinai and they base their determination as to the degree of hearing loss and the degree of pension on Dr. Alberti's report. He may be an independent doctor but every hearing loss claim from my area is always based on the report of Dr. Alberti who is a specialist.

Mr. Martel: Here in the city.

Mr. Ferrier: He is not the man's independent doctor.

Mr. Allan: I have had no experience with that but I know that in any cases I have been connected with they can choose their own doctor and get his report.

Mr. Haggerty: Or the board can send them to the University of Toronto—

Mr. Ferrier: They go to a hearing doctor in my area. He submits the report to the board's medical department. They take that report, look it over and if it shows there is some degree of hearing loss and there should be an accurate assessment they direct them to Dr. Alberti, to this lab Mr. Martel referred to.

Mr. Allan: Even regardless of that, don't you think it would be sensible to leave that until the Workmen's Compensation people are here?

Mr. Martel: Yes, but there is only one question with it. Many of these men have to be relocated within the particular industry

they are in because no other company is going to hire them. This becomes a responsibility of either this minister or the Minister of Labour, exclusive of the Workmen's Compensation Board, to try to find—or insist that he be given work there, because if he were to leave the employment of that company—let's say he is 50 per cent deaf—no one is going to hire him.

Mr. Allan: I have run into some pretty difficult problems in that area, particularly between departments. When you have a man who suffers an injury—you are getting back into Workmen's Compensation—and he is not able to carry on the work he did the company canvasses its various departments to find out if there is a vacancy. I tell you they don't get too much co-operation from the foremen or the superintendents of these various departments because the persons who are in those departments want those jobs for themselves.

I find we have great difficulty getting a place in another department for a man to do a type of work when his injury has been severe enough to wash out the work he had been doing before. Of course, no government can say to that department, "You have to take this man."

Mr. Martel: No, but what the government can do is start to establish pensions which are adequate to support the man and his family, instead of the present condition which is based on the degree of physical disability and not based at all upon the ability to earn. If your hearing loss is 100 per cent the jobs you can get are few and far apart. You have lost your ability to earn but that isn't what the assessment is based on.

Mr. Allan: Not necessarily.

Mr. Martel: Sure.

Mr. Allan: I don't know how you divide that line and here you are back in Workmen's Compensation matters again. I had an experience in the last week where a man is getting a pension. His ability to do his work hasn't been interfered with one particle but he gets a pension.

Mr. Martel: Most of them aren't. It is just the back and deafness or blindness but—

Mr. Allan: That didn't disqualify him from a pension. He is doing the same job he had before.

Mr. Martel: No, but if he has to leave the area of overexposure to prevent his going

even deaf and if the company hasn't got a job to offer him he is out on the street. He gets, maybe, \$80 a month pension. What does he do then?

Mr. Allan: You feel very sorry for the person that happens to but I think you will go over this again when you get into Workmen's Compensation.

Mr. Martel: But there has to be input from this ministry into those decisions and I am not sure that goes on because, as I say, it can't be simply based on your physical disability. My friend, the specialist, says that if they are out they should get \$5,000 a year at least; \$100,000 if they go at 45 so they can raise their family.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that until this point in time, this type of code has not been in effect.

Mr. Martel: No.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think you have to bear with us. We are concerned, as everyone is in this room, that that condition be improved, be rectified in every way possible as quickly as possible and our thrust is in that direction.

Mr. Martel: Would the minister agree to keep me advised—

Mr. Allan: I think he is a pretty good minister.

Mr. Martel: Yes, but you have to be hard with him. Would the minister agree—

Mr. Stokes: He is learning.

Mr. Martel: —to keep me informed as to what the Ministry of Health is willing to do based on the recommendations you have made with respect to the testing programme?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would be glad to keep you informed.

Mr. Martel: I have said the testing in the trailers is inefficient.

I want to put one point for my friend. He asked me what the unions were doing. The real problem is that under the Mining Act the unions have no say. The sole prerogative for safety rests entirely with management. I argued against it during Bill 2; I said it should be a 50-50 street with both sides getting together to formulate the safety policy of the company and both ensuring that it works out.

Here is the letter I received today from Elliot Lake, from the union. The minister received it. It is dated May 17. It says—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I likely haven't received it yet.

Mr. Martel: Well, it's hot off the press.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yours was likely hand delivered. That's usually the case.

Mr. Martel: I will just put this on the record:

On April 25, 1974, 64 safety and health items were presented, at a meeting, to the manager of Rio Algom Mines Ltd., Mr. Barry Bourne.

At that meeting our committee requested that all these safety and health items be investigated by the company, with the participation of the members of our union. We pointed out that we wished to receive specific answers to each item within a certain time limit.

It is interesting to note, however, that many of the safety and health items presented to the company are on record, and have been for the past three years or longer. Mr. Bourne replied to all items on May 3, 1974. The safety and health committee reorganized the committee structure and the new complaint form system has been adopted, which is in accordance with the system of dealing with complaints from your ministry.

This letter, by the way, is addressed to the minister:

The committee studied all replies from the company and decided that some items would have to be forwarded to the engineers from your ministry, since they have been in existence for the past three years or longer. On May 13, 1974, these points were discussed with Mr. Harry Weeks, district engineer of mines, and with Mr. Harry Bone, electrical mechanical engineer for that area. Mr. Weeks was very interested and he requested specific information on many of the items discussed from the committee. Mr. Bone made notes during the entire meeting of all items discussed. However, there were only two items that involved the services of an electrical mechanical engineer.

Only two items involved Mr. Bone.

Our committee requested that these matters be investigated and corrected. Mr. Bone argued the point that he will not investigate any items which have not been brought to the attention of the company by the union, even if these were violations of the Mining Act of Ontario.

That's your inspector refusing to investigate.

Mr. Allan: There's not much wrong with that.

Mr. Martel: To continue:

Mr. Bone contacted the company by phone on May 15 and advised that he would inspect the complaints forwarded to him by the union on May 16. On May 16 at 2 p.m., four members of the safety and health committee who were present at the meeting of May 13 were called to the mine manager's office for a meeting. At the meeting Mr. Bone [You know Mr. Bone] pointed out to the manager that these were the four men who presented the complaints to him. And in so many words, he singled these men out as the troublemakers. I classify this as an intimidation in its first degree. As you are aware our union has advised the safety and health committee in Ontario and other parts of Canada to use the complaint form in order to have unsafe and health conditions corrected in the best interests of our members.

I wish to believe that this system was very successful in correcting many problems, and in turn it reduced human suffering to a degree. As I already pointed out, we suggested the same system to Mr. Bourne and he agreed to give us full co-operation at the meeting on April 25.

Since the system has been introduced, however, Mr. Bourne has used intimidation tactics against our members. And some of our more active safety and health members have been threatened with being removed from certain jobs if they continue to press for improvements in the field of safety and health.

This was done, in my opinion, with the approval of Mr. Bourne, manager of the mine, and it appears to me it was supported by Mr. Bone from your staff, who is an employee of your department and is paid by the taxpayers of this province. What Mr. Bone did, however, indicates to me that he is being paid by the taxpayers of this province, but his action gives me no other choice but to ask the question as to whether he is also being paid by Rio Algom Mines?

Since it appears to me that Mr. Bourne, manager of the mine, is most unco-operative in solving safety and health problems in that mine, it will probably happen that all future complaints from the safety and health committee of Local 5417 will be forwarded directly to you as I believe that

matters of safety and health should be dealt with immediately.

I am further asking you to remove Mr. Bone from his position so that he can no longer work against our members in the uranium mines in Elliot Lake. I am asking you that this matter be fully investigated and the safety and health items in question be immediately corrected.

I am also asking you to impress upon Mr. Bourne that intimidation tactics are not the best system to be used to correct safety and health matters in the mine.

I hope to hear from you in the very near future.

I remain yours.

Paul Falkowski.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Paul Falkowski—who else? Mr. Chairman, I—

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, I might indicate that that letter also went to the federal Minister of Labour and the provincial Minister of Labour in the Province of Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Let's just stop for a minute—I think it's very right for our mine inspector to ask the union to go to management with its complaints.

Mr. Martel: Right; he agrees with that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's the normal course of events.

Mr. Martel: He agrees with that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He agreed with that? Fine and dandy.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Go to them, work it out. Then if they can't resolve it or correct it to what it should be, we should be brought into the picture.

Mr. Martel: That's what he said he did. Okay? But why did Mr. Bone, in fact, tell the mine manager these were the men who put the complaint out?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well I'll certainly look into that aspect of it.

Mr. Martel: That is what he is complaining about.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'll certainly look—

Mr. Martel: He is trying, as he indicates, to follow the procedures you laid down—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, right.

Mr. Martel: —by using the forms, going to management, and then if it can't be resolved going to the mining engineers. It's something we've all agreed on—that rather than you and I becoming involved as it was before, this procedure be worked out and we wouldn't have to get involved in so many, except those where there was no resolution of the problem.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will—

Mr. Martel: It's Mr. Bone's conduct he is complaining about.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will certainly investigate that. But getting back to a point that Mr. Allan brought up about our open-door policy and our acceptance of the union to come in and talk to us; I met with Mr. Falkowski and a number of his union representatives on another issue. Dr. Edwin J. Bounsall, who is the NDP labour critic from Windsor West was at that particular meeting.

Mr. Martel: Because I couldn't attend.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I want to read into the record the last paragraph he put on his letter to me, and that letter was dated April 18. He said:

Leo, if everything is done according to these understandings, I am sure it will be a large step forward. Communications are obviously important, since if the miners had known that the scope of the previous work was all that could be done at the time, and what your future plans were, then this last meeting would not have been necessary.

Now that's the kind of sound, sensible approach your member accepted. We had been grappling with the situation and once we had outlined our efforts to him, he accepted it; provided we agreed to follow up what we agreed to do. We intend to do this. So for you to say now that we don't have an open-door policy is just a bit wrong. The member from this particular party agreed we were moving in the right direction.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, that was after how many years?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I just say to you it's there.

Mr. Martel: It's a little bit and it's a lot late.

Mr. Germa: Well, Mr. Minister, after all these years of complaining about your mining inspection, we've completely lost faith in it. Here's another flagrant case of a mining inspector exposing four men. Now you monitor those four men and if they're not fixed within the next six months I'll eat my hat.

This is what happens. I know this for a fact. The men are afraid to complain because they're in jeopardy of their bloody jobs.

Mr. Foulds: Right.

Mr. Germa: When they complain to a government inspector, and he in turn exposes them to mine management, these mine managers have no bloody compassion whatsoever. All they're interested in is the big buck. Those four men, they're out the door as far as I'm concerned; unless you intervene on their behalf.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will certainly investigate that complaint.

Mr. Martel: I appreciate that. I will have a rest.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, I just wanted to follow along with the member for Haldimand-Norfolk and his concern about the unions—

Mr. Foulds: Mr. Chairman, isn't the list from this afternoon carried on?

Mr. Chairman: Well I want to mix it up a little bit. One member of the opposition party has had—

Mr. Haggerty: He was concerned whether the unions were interested in safety or not. I'm sure he must be well aware that unions are interested. The minister no doubt has received the latest submission of the Ontario Federation of Labour, just presented to the cabinet within the last week or so. I think all members have received a copy. And it pretty well follows the line of discussion here so far this evening. I will read this portion into the record:

Safety: While we believe that considerable progress has been made with the passing of the new Construction Safety Act, the federation still finds itself in the position to have complaints about the

enforcement of certain sections of Industrial Safety Act.

In our brief to you last year, we pointed out that section 24(5) of the Act which states that no employer shall discharge or discipline or threaten to discharge or discipline an employee for complying with the Act, is not being enforced by the industrial safety branch.

The federation and some of our affiliated unions have raised this matter repeatedly at the Ontario Labour Safety Council, but we are still no further ahead in this matter. The industrial safety branch will not reinstate an employee if he has been discharged, and we must use the arbitration procedure to fight for the enforcement of the Act. This is costly to the local union.

But even if it has been found that the employee was unjustly discharged, no action is taken by the enforcement branch against the company, despite the fact that arbitration has proven that the company has violated the Act.

We therefore again strongly urge you to bring about changes in the Industrial Safety Act to protect the rights of employees as spelled out in the Act. It seems senseless to have legislation on the statute books unless it is properly enforced.

I suppose the same paragraph could apply to the Mining Act. The member for Haldimand-Norfolk suggested we have some good suggestions here along with recommendations to the minister.

I don't want to be repetitious, as perhaps some other members are, but I have a private bill here—it was debated about two years ago—on safety committees. I remember I debated the Mining Act back in 1970, Bill 2, with about 642 clauses involved in it. I remember then that I suggested we should have something in there to assure input from employees in any industry, regardless of whether it's mines or any other industry throughout Ontario.

I said then that we should have safety committees established in industry with equal numbers from management and labour or employees. Then when the safety inspectors came in they would sit down with both groups to discuss problems and safety matters which are the concern of the Mining Act; or other industrial safety problems for that matter.

I say this will encourage input from labour; and I think this is what's missing. Labour plays a most important part. Without

its help production in the mines wouldn't be there and the profits wouldn't be there. I think they should have some voice in these matters. I'm sure if you get input from them, you're going to reduce the number of accidents, not only in mines but throughout other industry in Ontario. I hope you will take that into consideration. I think it's a step in the right direction; and perhaps the member for Haldimand-Norfolk will support the bill in that regard.

Mr. Allan: I always agree with my neighbour.

Mr. Ferrier: I put forward at the beginning of the day what BC has done, so we've got three right here that are behind it. I think you had better move on that before the session is out, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Haggerty: Give the employees some voice and say in safety matters.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Laughren.

Mr. Laughren: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to talk for a few minutes about—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sorry, Mr. Haggerty, that there is no other member of the press here you could go out and have a conference with as the member for Sudbury East did just a moment ago.

Mr. Haggerty: Oh, I see.

Mr. Foulds: Oh come on, Mr. Minister, when you give us a statement, that is duplicated to every press system in this province.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I was shocked. I thought the press would have got enough from the debate this afternoon without cornering a member of the committee.

Mr. Laughren: You sound somewhat sensitive about this whole thing.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is an open discussion here, really I do. Anything that was discussed here was done openly, and we give the press every opportunity to get as much information as they want.

Mr. Ferrier: I think it is quite understandable that—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Why should they sneak out quietly into the hallways?

Mr. Ferrier: Happens after every question period. The minister and the members are out there in front of the television cameras every day and—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Are you sensitive about what I said?

Mr. Ferrier: Mr. Allan is saying that you are being kind of childish in trying to direct attention—

Mr. Allan: Maybe sometimes they wouldn't mind being excused.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Just a passing comment and a passing observation.

Mr. Laughren: Perhaps the press wanted to get the member for Sudbury East's response to the minister's change in behaviour since the supper hour?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Change in behaviour? I hadn't noticed. We're always sincere and dedicated to our job; doing our best for the labour force of this province.

Mr. Laughren: I think someone talked you down over the supper hour.

Mr. Germa: With all due respect, I think I know what they are talking about. I heard them discussing it earlier. They are talking about something relative to your ministry. It is a case of International Nickel Co. buying land at \$1 an acre and selling off lots now at \$5,000 per lot. It is land that you gave to them with mining rights for \$1; that's your government. This is the kind of thing that we are talking about.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I bought some property up in my own town relatively cheaply several years ago and I'm sure if I sold it today I could get a—

Mr. Laughren: Did you get it for \$1 per pound?

Mr. Germa: Did you get it for 25 cents a lot and now you are selling it for \$6,000 a lot? This is the ripoff the mining companies have been carrying out.

Mr. Haggerty: And he is going to give it all to charity.

Mr. Chairman: Order please; what bearing has this?

Mr. Germa: The minister has made a mistake—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Laughren now.

Mr. Laughren: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Followed by Hon. Mr. Rhodes, followed by Mr. Foulds, followed by—

Mr. Laughren: If the chairman will leave it up to me, I will get on with the debate.

Mr. Chairman: —Mr. Ferrier, followed by—

Mr. Laughren: There he goes again.

Mr. Chairman: —the member for Sudbury.

Mr. Laughren: May I proceed, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Yes; please do.

Mr. Laughren: I'd like to talk for a few minutes about broad policy within the ministry concerning our minerals. In the past it has been very difficult to get this minister to talk about broad policy. He mixes it up pretty well with the individual members concerning aspects of the industry, such as safety. He may not have the right answers, but he engages in the debate. What is very difficult to get the minister to do is to debate broad policy. I would hope he'd be willing to do that.

I think that in Canada today there is a very noticeable shift in public opinion concerning our non-renewable natural resources. I would hope that this minister and the people within his ministry, particularly those who are concerned with the non-renewable resources, would very seriously consider the whole question of the ownership of the non-renewable resources.

It's not enough to say, for example, that taxation does certain things to the development of our mineral resource industry. I'd like to talk for a few minutes about the whole question of ownership, and what some of the problems are if we leave it in the private sector and what some of the benefits could be if they were in the public sector.

I think there are a number of problems with our minerals. If you leave them where they are now, in the private sector, I think you have a problem with economic development in the province. I think you have a problem of safety in the mines, which has been well documented. I think you also have a very serious problem with the return to the people of the province, a just return.

I'm not talking about increasing taxes from \$45 million to \$85 million. That is still only about six per cent of the value of the minerals produced. When I think of just one company's annual report—and before I go on, Mr. Minister, I want to assure you that I

don't regard the International Nickel Co. as a particular villain in the mining industry in the Province of Ontario. I think they play the game according to the rules that are laid down for them. So it is not a case of paranoia concerning a corporation that dominates the area which I represent.

I'm talking about the entire mineral industry. If you look at the latest annual report of International Nickel Co. of Canada Ltd., and I am sure the minister has, he will notice that its proven ore reserves alone—and I am not just talking about ore, I am talking about the nickel in that ore—the figure this company uses is 6.3 million tons of nickel. Now if you do a rough computation, at \$1.60 a lb say, you will come out to about \$20 billion worth of nickel. That's at \$1.60 a lb, and it is going up in price as has just been announced. If you translate that nickel into finished products—such as for the bumpers on cars, stainless steel and the nickel that is used for munitions and so forth—a rough guess by an economist would probably put that at about \$150 billion by the time it is translated into finished products. I don't think that ratio of about 7 to 1 is an exaggeration in terms of the economic spin-offs or the ripple effect from the development of that nickel.

I think to leave that kind of wealth where it is now should be very seriously questioned and I hope that the minister would do some thinking about it.

The other members from the Sudbury area talk about land. Well according to the survey of mines, Inco owns the surface rights of 200,000 acres in the Sudbury basin. When you think of the price of land today and how little this company paid for it, I see no reason why the majority of it shouldn't be repatriated to the Crown and put to more useful purposes than just being allowed to sit there. I am not talking at this point of the ore beneath. I am talking about the surface rights.

I think that despite the minister's opening statement about Ontario's tax system preventing high-grading—I understand he is saying that the tax system as opposed to royalties is less apt to lead to high-grading—but in International Nickel's report, again this company uses a couple of figures that bother me. It uses a figure, for example, for 1973, to the effect that the company mined 19.7 million dry short tons of ore—and I'm talking now about nickel in this case—with an average grade of 1.41 per cent nickel. The nickel it processed in the previous year had an average grade of 1.33. Now, that is a substantial increase in the quality of the ore—from 1.33

to 1.41. Copper went up from .91 per cent in 1972 to .98 per cent.

So you may say that the tax you have imposed does not lead to high-grading. In relation to royalties it may not, but the point is that higher grade of ore is being graded now. And that's without that new tax, so I would suggest to you that it is happening already. Whether you apply that tax or not, the ore is going to be mined in a way that is most profitable to the company. Why wouldn't it? The company would have to be out of its mind not to, because that's the name of the game.

I think that despite your assurances I am very nervous about the quality of ore being processed. If we go beyond the sort of rhetoric that surrounds the private ownership of our resources and talk about really true economic development, you would probably agree that the kind of development in Ontario has not taken place that should have. Development has been lopsided. You have the sophisticated development of southern Ontario, and the resource-based development of northern Ontario. There is no indication this is changing. As a matter of fact, I was reading about the Metro Centre development that is going to be gone ahead with here in Toronto, and it is projected that right now, as a matter of fact, about 30 per cent of Ontario's population is in the "golden horseshoe"—sort of the Metro area. By the year 2,000 it is projected that this figure will rise to 66 per cent. Unless someone makes a courageous decision, the kind of lop-sided development we have had is not only going to continue, but be accelerated. That's patently clear.

I would suggest to you that part of the reason, not the only reason, is the way in which our resources have been developed. If we continue to allow this kind of development nothing's going to change. As a matter of fact, the situation will get worse. It should be kept in mind that we are dealing with a non-renewable resource. We know that it is not going to come back again.

There are some bodies looking very seriously into this. I am talking now about the federal government for example. The Economic Council of Canada made some dire predictions last fall in what I believe was its 10th annual report. It indicated that a crisis in the public sector is occurring and that this country is not going to be able to continue to increase expenditures in the public sector. The reason, of course, is that there is not the kind of development underneath the public

sector to support it. This is really talking about manufacturing, and as long as the resources are not tied in with manufacturing, you are not going to develop that manufacturing sector in order to allow us to deliver the kind of services that we all agree need to be delivered in the province.

I would suggest to you that our resources are going to continue to be the basic underpinnings of our economy in Ontario, and that as long as you allow them to be developed by the private sector, they are not going to bring about the kind of balance needed for the development of the province.

Then there is the Science Council of Canada. In the estimates last year, and I won't repeat myself, it was indicated that resources should be used as a lever in order to develop this country. Well, the council was referring to all provinces, of course, and it indicated that employment in the manufacturing sector is stagnating. Employment is not as healthy as it should be, and one way to improve it would be to use resources as a lever to create employment in the manufacturing sector.

So I give a bouquet to the council for not only recognizing the fact, but for suggesting a solution. That's more than the economic council did. It threw up its hands and said: "There is a crisis in the public sector, and we must restrict expenditure in it." But the science council saw beyond that and saw what the solution was.

I think it is a sad commentary that to this day we do not have an industrial strategy for the Province of Ontario. It is a haphazard kind of growth. We have been fortunate in the Province of Ontario. We have experienced rapid growth. We have had low unemployment. But the kind of growth we have had it not the kind we should be proud of. I think that if we are going to develop the province as I believe most of us want to, and not just those in northern Ontario but those people in southern Ontario as well, we should have growth across the province and not only in the "golden horseshoe". We have heard enough evidence of this kind of growth from other parts of the world to know it's not Mecca in terms of progress.

So I think we should seriously consider in the Province of Ontario—it is very difficult for a Conservative government with its ideology, I appreciate that—but we should seriously consider public ownership of resources. I suggest to you that public opinion is quickly catching up with what I am

saying, and it is going to pass this government by.

Unless you start considering development seriously then you are going to regret it in the years to come. As someone said to me, if there was a space ship above the earth, and it was looking down and saw one country here, named Canada, digging all this stuff out of the ground and shipping it some place else to have it processed into manufactured goods, and the manufactured goods were shipped back to Canada at much higher, inflated prices, they would think we were truly out of our minds.

I think that developing and processing the ores near the source has got to come. I say that despite this advisory committee report, which has been discussed earlier, which suggests that section 113 of the Mining Act be repealed.

It has proven to be unworkable and in keeping with the philosophy that as much processing as possible should be done in Canada, it is recommended that treatment and refinement of ores and minerals be encouraged through use of incentives rather than punitive legislation.

I hope that you do not consider that recommendation very seriously. I think we should be moving in the opposite direction as a matter of fact.

I think the more destructive mining practices, such as high-grading, could be abolished in the name of more rational development for the Province of Ontario.

I say that to you in a most serious way. A couple of years ago, I think it was 1970, a Hodge-Wong report came out which dealt with the building of an industrial complex in northern Ontario. As a matter of fact it explored a number of areas where there could be development of an industrial complex, based on our resources of northern Ontario.

They suggested there could be four new industries: A wire and cable plant; a copper and brass mill; a couple of non-ferrous foundries; and a cement plant—and that they could be set up for an investment of \$29 million, producing about 800 jobs and another 800 jobs in service and supporting industries.

When I think of what that would mean in terms of the kind of wages, the kind of secure jobs for employees, compared to the kind of nonsense they are talking about with the development of Maple Mountain, my mind boggles. Yet there seems to be

more serious consideration of Maple Mountain than of the Hodge-Wong report. Clearly the money is available in the Province of Ontario to do something like that. I think the minister should dig out the Hodge-Wong report and have another look at those recommendations, because I think there is some merit to them.

I know the minister has indicated we are going to get involved in exploration in the Province of Ontario. I am a little concerned about that too, because if all we are doing is exploring to ease the exploration costs of the mining companies, I wouldn't be particularly happy with that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You can't win, you can't win.

Mr. Laughren: If, however, the kind of exploration that he intends to do is going to be meaningful and bring some benefits to the public sector, then I would support him.

I must confess, Mr. Minister, that I find the whole discussion of taxation of our resources almost irrelevant, because I heard the minister say many times that high taxes will restrict growth in the mining industry. That if you tax the mining industry too high then they high-grade or they don't develop the mines. We have heard the kind of panic reaction in BC to their proposed legislation, Bill 31 I believe it is called.

That is why increased taxation of the mining industry eventually is self-defeating, because in fact it does not encourage growth in the mining industry. I am sure there is a fine line whereby you extract the most you can in terms of taxation, but beyond that you discourage the mining industry.

What I am suggesting for the consideration of the minister, is that with public ownership of our resources you wouldn't have that problem. You wouldn't have the problem of Texasgulf saying: "To hell with you. We are going to cancel that \$95 million smelter in northeastern Ontario."

You do get yourself into a trap when you play with taxation; I recognize that as a fact. I am sure the minister would agree with me. Can you imagine how zero taxation would stimulate growth, Mr. Minister? You would certainly agree that if you didn't tax the mining industry—wouldn't you agree, based on the arguments that you and they use—that you would have fabulous exploration and development and exploitation of our resources. Think about the low taxes you could have on Crown corporations! I think you should seri-

ously consider what the returns for the people of this province would be with such a policy.

I would like to talk for a few moments, not long because I think it has been handled very well, on the whole question of the uranium mines. I shall try not to be repetitive. I think that the most distressing part—I have been to Elliot Lake; I have talked to some of the miners in Elliot Lake who suffer from silicosis, who suffer from lung cancer. And the thing that struck me as being most sad was that those miners who were there in the beginning are the ones most affected now because of the long-time exposure. Those are the men who stayed in Elliot Lake through the boom and the bust periods, through the threats of intermittent unemployment since the mines began. They're the ones who are paying the highest price now. That seems grossly unfair to me. With that kind of service, I just think it is so grossly unfair to be faced with that kind of a future with an industrial disease.

Now, we have the companies in some cases making some sympathetic noises, but they still will allow a man who's been diagnosed as having silicosis to work underground in that same dust that caused the disease in the first place. And at this very moment they are encouraging miners to work overtime in the mines at Elliot Lake, when we know that there's a relationship in the time that the miner is exposed and the incidence of silicosis and perhaps lung cancer. What's required is less exposure, not more. That is somewhat of an indication of the concern of the mining industry.

Among those miners—certainly the ones that I talked to; and I don't pretend to have talked to a large cross-section, but I did talk to perhaps six, eight or 10 miners in Elliot Lake who had silicosis or lung cancer—the last place they look to for any kind of comfort or any kind of hope for the future, or reassurance, is the company that employed them. They just don't even think to looking there. They don't look to the Workmen's Compensation Board, certainly, because it virtually forces the men to prove that they have silicosis, rather than being in there in an aggressive fashion trying to help the men.

I think that's what bothers them and what bothers me most about the programme of this ministry and of the Workmen's Compensation Board. Rather than crusading on behalf of the men, they leave that up to others. They leave that up to either the member for Sudbury East, or to the leadership in the United Steelworkers of America. There's no

reason why the crusading couldn't be done by this minister; no reason at all. It would be a feather in his cap.

I don't understand that position the minister takes of always being on the defensive to safety in the mines. When we're talking about the ownership of resources, I can understand him being on the defensive, because that's his ideology. But when it comes to the health of the miners and the safety of the miners, there's no reason why this minister could be so much on the defensive all the time. And that permeates his ministry; and that's why we have the problems with the mining inspectors.

I've talked to officials in the ministry, too, and I'll have more to say about that in a few minutes. I can honestly say that I've been incensed before, both before my entry into politics and since then, but I have never, never been as incensed and as outraged as I am about what's going on at Elliot Lake. Perhaps if I hadn't gone there, perhaps if I hadn't talked to some of the terminal cancer cases and the people who have silicosis, some of them with young families, and realized the kind of stress that puts on those people as human beings and their relationships with their family, perhaps I wouldn't be as incensed.

But I can tell you that I feel contaminated by this ministry, when I sit here and hear the minister defend the mining companies the way he does; and refuses to crusade on behalf of the working people in those mines. I say I feel contaminated, not because I'm so virtuous, but because this ministry is living off the avails of what's going on in those mines.

The attitude of the company and the ministry to those miners is distressingly similar to an animal eating its young. Now those are hard words, but I can tell you that if every member of this committee could go to Elliot Lake and spend a day there and talk to those men, some of them very young, they would perhaps have an appreciation of why I feel so incensed. I have never felt this way about any issue as I do about the problem in Elliot Lake.

The procrastination of this ministry has been documented. I don't expect this minister to admit any guilt. But the guilt is there and it's indisputable. The report that the member for Sudbury East talked about is dated 1961, and it indicates that there's a problem with dust in the uranium mines.

In 1967, in the United States Congress, Senator Kennedy of New York had this to say:

Mr. President, the recent deaths of uranium miners because of unnecessary exposure to radon gas and its byproducts is testimony to our failure in this area of occupational health.

It is clear now that industry, states and the federal government did not meet their responsibility to those employed in the uranium mines and as a result of their failure, over 1,000 men may die or have their productive years shortened.

This loss is particularly tragic because it did not have to happen. A number of groups and individuals had pointed out the hazards associated with mining radioactive ores and had recommended that certain steps be taken to avoid these hazards.

But because no one died in American uranium mines, these warnings were ignored. The costs of taking preventive measures were cited as a reason for delaying their use and the uncertainties connected with this new hazard were used to excuse the lack of action.

It would seem to me, Mr. Minister, that this sums up the problem in this ministry as well. I don't expect you to admit any guilt whatsoever. You are intractable on this matter. But I can tell you that the kind of callous disregard for the health of those miners would not be allowed if the uranium industry was in public hands instead of the hands of people like Stephen Roman.

Perhaps, also, if there was an opportunity for the workers in these mines to have some kind of say, some kind of participation in the conditions under which they work, this would not have happened either. Yet this minister and this government continues to discriminate against miners. I suspect it is because he is aware that the conditions are so bad that the miners just would not put up with them if they had more of a say in their working conditions.

Then when the minister has the unmitigated gall to stand up in the Legislature and charge that the walkout was based on 15 cents and that the problems of safety in the mine were being exaggerated by the union, it is very hard for us to understand why you do not regard it as being more serious than you apparently do.

It doesn't matter who is talking about the uranium industry, whether it is you or whether it is the industry itself, it is very hard to tell who is making the speeches. In your opening statement, which was 15 pages long, on page 14 you mention safety but

there was no mention of uranium. You just say:

My ministry's mine safety and engineering programme has continued to be one in which I have taken a direct personal interest throughout the year and I will be very happy to discuss this programme and the results of my meetings with union representatives during the course of our discussions.

No direct reference to the uranium mining industry, and when the Minister of Energy (Mr. McKeough)—who also has a responsibility in this matter if he regards uranium as the fuel of the future—when he made a speech on May 7 to the Ontario Mining Association—and, of course, one should keep in mind to whom he was talking—he said:

The Ministry of Natural Resources and my own ministry have developed a nine-point policy position and are doing what we can to get Ottawa off the mark.

He is talking about uranium. I don't think I need read the nine points. But there is not one single word in there about the safety of miners or the health of the miners or the problem of industrial disease. Not a single word.

Now wouldn't you think he could have added 10 points and that the tenth point could have been that with the development of uranium as the source of energy fuel for the future, the safety of the miners would be paramount? And if I might paraphrase my good friend from Sandwich-Riverside (Mr. Burr), if it is going to cost the life of one miner, he will burn a candle. Now that may be a bit heavy for you, Mr. Minister, but that's the way he feels about it and the way I feel about it.

Then there is the speech by the president, Mr. Albert Armstrong, president of Rio Algom. I'm sure the minister knows him. He had some interesting things to say when he spoke at the annual meeting of Rio Algom shareholders on April 26, 1974. By the way, there was nothing in there about safety either. You would think that in speaking to the shareholders he would express his concern for the people who work there.

What does he talk about? Well, he talks about recovery of uranium reserves to be optimized by the application of prices that reflect free market forces. Imagine the uranium industry talking about free market forces, considering the subsidies they have had. And he talks about uranium control legislation and Canadian ownership. He talks about Canada having large "uranium reserves

that were discovered, developed and managed responsibly and with competence by private industry over a long period of difficult and uncertain market conditions."

Mr. Martel: Yes, only \$30 million worth of stockpiling.

Mr. Laughren: Well, I want to tell you, Mr. Minister, that I don't consider it competent and I don't consider it to have been managed responsibly, considering what's going on in Elliot Lake. They are more concerned with the tax rates than with legislation that discourages "the application of initiative by the private sector."

Well, the point I'm trying to make, Mr. Minister, is that those speeches could have been mixed up, and you or the Minister of Energy or the president of Rio Algom or the president of Denison Mines could have picked those speeches out of a hat and made them. They are so similar. You really are saying the same things. You really do have the same kind of motivations. And that I feel is wrong.

I think that when we talk about the uranium mines and the uranium miners, you should consider the uranium miners as a very special segment of the work force. If it is necessary to reconsider the 40-hour week and if it is necessary to reconsider the eight-hour shift, so be it. We are talking about something too important. For you or for the former Treasurer, Mr. Allan, to talk about the trade union movement negotiating these things, that is irresponsible. It's the only word I can use.

I think that the mining companies themselves won't alter the working conditions, I can tell you. I feel that if there is a possibility—or a certainty, as a matter of fact—that the industrial diseases now coming out of Elliot Lake result from the dust, fumes and radiation, then it is up to this ministry to treat the uranium mining industry as a very special case.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It should go to Health.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, they should be taken right out of this ministry, of course. And I think my colleague from Sudbury East has made that point very well many times.

You know, you talk about safety and the mining inspectors and so forth. The day the men returned to work after that 12-day walk-out—which cost them the full 12 days' pay, I might add—and keeping in mind that they walked out primarily because of working conditions, the day they returned to work, a scoop tram operator was told to try out his machine on the travelway. Well, after 12 days

of being shut down, there was a great deal of dust in that travelway. But, he is ordered to take his scoop tram and try it out on the travelway before it's been watered down. And you call that concern for the conditions in the mines.

As a matter of fact, that same day, another scoop tram operator was looking for a workplace where he was supposed to be operating his scoop tram, and as he drove along, all of a sudden he found himself in 8 ft of water. If that scoop tram operator had been me, he would have drowned because I can't swim. Can you imagine what kind of terrifying experience it would be to drive a scoop tram into 8 ft of water?

I don't know whether you've ever seen a scoop tram, but it's a truly awesome experience. I stood in the mines at International Nickel about a month ago and I really had a strange experience. When that scoop tram had gone, I felt something had been done to me but I didn't know what. The thing comes hurtling by in an atmosphere of incredible noise and speed. It disgorges tons of earth down a chute and then roars off out of sight. I've never felt so intimidated by a machine in my life. And just the thought scares me of someone driving that machine into a hole full of water.

There were no signs up, no barriers up; so you know what I did? I phoned the mining inspector in Elliot Lake and I said: "What are you going to do about that? Did the company report that accident?" He said: "No, they don't have to under the Mining Act."

I checked section 9 of the Mining Act—the little orange handbook the minister was waving so proudly a few minutes ago—and technically he didn't have to report it, because it's not covered in the regulations for incidents that might occur underground.

But the idea that because it was not technically covered and didn't have to be reported, satisfied the mining inspector. I just think this laissez faire attitude toward the mining companies is wrong. They have proven that they don't really care.

The last thing that we need underground are pussycat mining inspectors who will go in there and barely do their job; and even then not take the initiative. I wish that the minister would take a very serious look at the whole mines inspection branch of his ministry. It is very unusual for me, and I know for my colleagues as well, to attack the civil service in this province. I think they have served the province remarkably well, but when there is an element of the civil service

that is not doing its job, it is our duty to point that out to the minister.

Mr. Martel: I hope they sleep well at night.

Mr. Laughren: I think that applies to the mining inspectors. When I talked to one of your mining inspectors, Mr. Minister, I said to him: "Have you ever laid any charges against Rio Algom or Denison?" He said: "No, no we've never laid any charges." And I said: "Why not, have there not been any violations?" He said: "Oh yes, but you know, gee, there is a lot of red tape in laying charges." And I quote that mining inspector verbatim.

Do you know what else he said? He said: "I think that the union should be doing more." Well, if you think that that is the prerogative of the trade union movement, you had better let the men have some say in the working conditions. You can't have it both ways—which is what you are trying to do now. It is too ludicrous.

Mr. Martel: All the Tories voted against that. When we revised Bill 2, we tried to get the men to have a say; and the Tories all voted against it.

Mr. Ferrier: They even held the vote until Gaston Demers could get east.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Laughren: Mr. Minister, I won't talk any more about the problems in Elliot Lake for now. I think my leader, the member for Scarborough West (Mr. Lewis), will be talking about them as well.

I'd like to turn for a few minutes, if I might, to the rather seamy side of our resource corporations. That's the antics of our resource corporations in the third world. I might add, Mr. Chairman, before you get shift-eyed, that our resource corporations have been able to do in the third world what they are doing as a result of the surplus they've extracted from the mines in the Province of Ontario. I am talking about what we in the Province of Ontario allow our resource corporations resident in this province to do elsewhere. So I am perfectly in order in this vote.

The companies, such as International Nickel, Falconbridge, Rio Tinto, Tara Mining—

Mr. Martel: Good corporate citizens.

Mr. Laughren: —are regarded here as good corporate citizens. But I can tell you, Mr. Chairman, that their tentacles have gone into the third world—and they've gone into the third world as a result of the surplus they've been allowed to extract from the people in the Province of Ontario.

I want you to think about that most seriously, because those corporations use the surplus here to develop resource frontiers elsewhere—exploit the labour conditions in those countries. I'm talking about countries such as Rhodesia, South Africa, the Dominican Republic. What they do is, they exploit the cheap labour there and use the surplus from that operation to capitalize in a high-labour-cost country such as Canada so that they can make it more mechanized here.

So one compounds the other. We have the workers in both areas exploiting each other—here, through unemployment in the mining industry; and there, by exploiting the blacks in the third world. That is something which they are allowed to do as a result of the surplus they are extracting from the Province of Ontario, and I think that this should be perfectly clear. We have a breeder-reactor kind of growth of these corporations. They are using surplus here to exploit labour where it is cheap, and they are using the surplus from that cheap labour to capitalize and rationalize their industry here. That's one reason you have a cutback in the work force in the Sudbury area the last few years.

It should be kept in mind that two-thirds of the proven reserves of nickel in the world are in the third world. They are not in Canada. They are not in France. They are in the third world. And just to use International Nickel as an example, for 1974 Inco has projected capital expenditures of \$200 million. A third of that will go to develop lateritic ores which are only found in the tropics, obviously not Canada.

Just an example, Inco in Indonesia is going to start production in early 1976 of 30 million pounds annually in the form of 75 per cent matte at the cost of \$135 million. In Guatemala, production of 25 million pounds. In New Caledonia, at a cost of \$300 million, production of 45 million pounds of nickel annually. In Brazil, they are undergoing a feasibility study now to develop nickel there.

I think it should be clear to the minister that when I talk about, or ask him to seriously consider, the ownership of our resources, that he go beyond the immediate, go beyond the obvious of what is happening

in the Province of Ontario. Think about what those corporations, those so-called civilized corporations, are doing in an environment where they don't have to be civilized. They are only as civilized as the laws that govern them. They are not, by nature, civilized.

One could look at Falconbridge, which, as a matter of fact, has probably tended to get away with a great deal more than International Nickel, probably because International Nickel dominates the Sudbury basin and people concentrate on it. But Falconbridge is a company that is controlled by Superior Oil in the United States. Falconbridge in its own right, however, has become a multi-national corporation with extensive operations in South Africa, Rhodesia and the Dominican Republic. I would like to talk for a couple of moments about what the profits that Falconbridge is realizing here are allowing it to do elsewhere. I would like to quote a couple of things to you, if I might, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Good filibustering

Mr. Laughren: No, it is no filibuster, Mr. Chairman. This is the United Nations council, Mr. Chairman. I am sure you would agree that the UN didn't anticipate a debate in the Ontario Legislature when it wrote this report, but here it is:

As a result of South Africa's illegal occupation and exploitation, the economy of Namibia [which is where Falconbridge is very active] exhibits the characteristics of a classical colonial economic structure. It consists of two distinct economic sectors: the static and impoverished subsistence sector, into which most of the African population falls; and the market sector, which is controlled by South African and other foreign interests. The latter sector exploits ruthlessly the Namibian people through the system of cheap African contract labour in order to maintain its enormous and increasing prosperity. Most of the larger companies active in Namibia, particularly in mining and fishing, are either subsidiaries or branches of companies whose headquarters are located in the Republic of South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

That is an example of the kind of thing that I find offensive as a resident of Ontario, when I see companies who are under the jurisdiction of the Province of Ontario, and we are doing nothing about it. Writing in the Ottawa Citizen on the antics of Falconbridge,

this is what Mr. Hugh Nangle, who is the deputy editorial page editor of the Montreal Gazette, had to say. This was in the Ottawa Citizen:

Thursday, June 28, 1973. [And he is talking about Falconbridge.] Falconbridge's operation at Oamites raises further questions for the Canadian government, since 25 per cent of the operating company, Oamites Mining Ltd., is held by the South African Development Corp., the South African government's parastatal industrial body.

Housing at Oamites reflects the different status of the racial groups. The black contract mine workers are put into cement blockhouses with at least 14 to a dormitory section. There are two large long blockhouses with an open dining hall cum recreational centre and cookhouse between the two blocks.

Some workers are housed in tin shacks because there is not enough space in the blocks. These are indescribably hot and stuffy.

Coloured workers in the mine are housed in separate two-bedroom homes. There is a small amount of property around each house. Some are fenced. A clubhouse and tennis court is provided by the mine. A primary school also has been built by the mine for the children of the mixed race families who live and work in the mine.

The Europeans in the mine live in splendour compared with their fellow African and coloured workers, again, over a hill. Houses are provided with at least two bedrooms. There is a sizable amount of property with each house so that there is no crowding. Recreational facilities consist of a modern clubhouse, tennis court and swimming pool.

Mr. Martel: Sounds like Copper Cliff.

Mr. Laughren: So, you can see why I regard the mining industry that's resident in Ontario as being not legitimate, as it is now constituted.

Of course, that was Falconbridge in South Africa, where they are violating the United Nations' ruling that maybe it was a separate state, and where they are in co-operation with the South African government, helping to subjugate the people in Namibia.

But they're also active in Southern Rhodesia, where they violate the UN economic sanctions, which are endorsed by Canada. The federal government won't do anything about it, but Falconbridge is resi-

dent in the Province of Ontario and this province has jurisdiction over these resources.

I'd like to describe once again from the Nangle report, what some of the conditions in Southern Rhodesia are at what is called the Blanket Mine.

The Blanket Mine is a disgusting example of a Canadian company exploiting black workers. Living conditions for blacks are appalling, while the white workers luxuriate over the hill in attractive homes with beautiful gardens and at least one automobile to a house.

Recreational facilities for the black mine workers are a beer hall cum community hall and an overgrown pot-holed soccer field. The white workers, on the other hand, have a swimming pool, tennis court and an attractive clubhouse for their recreational facilities.

The disparity, of course, extends to the pay received by the different races—bad for Africans and good for whites. The houses for blacks consist of two-room asbestos corrugated sheeting. At best they can be referred to as shacks. They are crowded together, one upon the other, in an area of the country where there is plenty of space.

Overcrowding, because of the size of individual families, is such that shanties of sheeting and boarding in many cases double as cooking areas and sleeping quarters for some members of the family. The accompanying poor-quality photographs give some idea of the wretched living conditions at the Blanket Mine.

If the minister is interested, I will show him a copy of those.

It is worthwhile merely to indicate to what a Canadian subsidiary is subjecting its African workers. Blanket Mine had a profit of \$1.3 million last year. There are about 500 Africans employed by the mine. The starting wage is a basic 56 cents a day. The mine operates six days a week.

Mr. Martel: That's your corporate friends.

Mr. Laughren: Still quoting:

Some blacks who have worked with Falconbridge for more than 20 years in Rhodesia receive between \$43.74 and \$48.60 per month. The Blanket Mine issues the workers a double ration of food each week. This is made up of mealie—that's ground maize — which forms the basis of the diet; meat, vegetables when available, some salt and shelled peanuts are issued when available.

Mr. Allan: Oh, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Laughren: I realize that you would find this offensive. I realize—

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): This has nothing to do with the estimates.

Mr. Laughren: This has to do with the antics of resource corporations in the Province of Ontario.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order. I think you've made your point.

Mr. Martel: It's hard to understand how you could be critical in not wanting to hear about it.

Mr. Root: I didn't say anything about that. Why don't you stick to the estimates?

Mr. Laughren: Mr. Chairman, as a matter of fact, I'm surprised that the back-benchers of the Tory party allowed the debate to continue this long, knowing the sense of guilt they would have with their inactivity in this regard.

Mr. Root: Stick to the estimates.

Mr. Laughren: You are quite prepared to overlook what you have allowed Falconbridge to do in the third world. Don't you realize it's because of the policies of this ministry that they're allowed to do that?

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. Continue with the estimates, please.

Mr. Stokes: Go ahead. Just carry on.

Mr. Laughren: Well, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to finish that short article:

Mr. Chairman: It's out of order.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Even your members are laughing at you. To your own members, it's a joke.

Mr. Germa: We're laughing at these guys who won't be able to sleep tonight, if they've a conscience.

Mr. Foulds: Your mineral management policy allowed Falconbridge to do that exploitation in the third world, and you can't deny it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Ferrier is embarrassed.

Mr. Ferrier: No, no. I'm not embarrassed.

Mr. Foulds: He's embarrassed for the Conservative members of this committee.

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Martel: They'll all go to church next Sunday.

Mr. Laughren: Are you suggesting, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: I think that you have made your point. Now, continue on the estimates.

Mr. Laughren: Now, wait a minute; on a point of clarification, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: You've roamed throughout the third world, as you call it, I think long enough. Now, let's get back into Ontario.

Mr. Laughren: Could I ask you for a ruling, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Yes. I'm ruling that it's out of order.

Mr. Laughren: Are you ruling that what the resource corporations—

Mr. Chairman: I am asking you to get back on the estimates before the committee.

Mr. Laughren: Mr. Chairman, I am asking you on a point of clarification, are you suggesting that what resource corporations do with the profits they earn in the Province of Ontario is irrelevant to these estimates? Is that what you are ruling?

Mr. Chairman: No, I am ruling that you are talking about mining in the third world.

Mr. Laughren: I am not talking about mining in the third world.

Mr. Chairman: Here you talk about mining in Ontario.

Mr. Laughren: I am talking about what the mining activities in Ontario allow those corporations to do—in the third world.

Mr. Foulds: No place is an island.

Mr. Root: Well, how do you do it unless you close them down in Ontario? Do you want to close Falconbridge and International Nickel down?

An hon. member: Do you want to control their export and capital?

Mr. Laughren: That's right. That's right.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Order.

Mr. Foulds: That's all.

Mr. Laughren: It is by allowing the export of the surplus that is generated in the Province of Ontario that allows them to do that. I am suggesting to the minister, if he would consider the ownership of our resources, in a very serious way, that this would not happen. How is that out of order?

Mr. Germa: It sounds very reasonable to me.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think we should have the source of information that the member is reading from.

Mr. Laughren: Well, of course. I told you that was from the Ottawa Citizen by Hugh Nangle, a deputy editorial page editor of the Montreal Gazette. I quoted from Senator Kennedy. I have quoted from the United Nations. Are you suggesting that my sources are questionable, Mr. Minister? I don't understand your objections.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Just verification.

Mr. Martel: Well, when you get verification you say it is erroneous anyway. Except tonight you kind of came back and said it was well documented.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It must be doctored—slanted.

Mr. Martel: It wasn't slanted.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: A socialist slant, I gathered through the whole thread of the discussion.

Mr. Laughren: It would seem to me, Mr. Chairman—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You've got a new ideology. You want to expound on it. Go ahead and expound on it.

Mr. Ferrier: At the Falconbridge annual meeting—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is your belief, we've got ours.

Mr. Foulds: Yours is that capital should be used to exploit people in the third world. Is that what you are saying?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am not saying that at all.

Mr. Laughren: You don't want the debate opened up though, do you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Go ahead.

Mr. Laughren: Tell your chairman that.

Mr. Chairman: I think you can't dwell on this point. I'll ask you to get back on the estimates before the House.

Mr. Laughren: If the debate is in order, Mr. Chairman, I have a right to substantiate my arguments, surely. Either I am in order or I am not.

Mr. Chairman: You are not in order.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is a filibuster.

Mr. Allan: Well, Mr. Chairman—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Their leader is not around.

Mr. Allan: —the discussion of the mining conditions.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The leader is not around.

An hon. member: There is no need for a filibuster.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Can't you understand? They are going to drag it on as long as they can. They all know that.

Mr. Laughren: Well, I can understand—

Mr. Foulds: If those conditions—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The member for Scarborough West is not around.

Interjections by hon. members.

An hon. member: That is a pretty far-fetched argument.

Mr. Foulds: It is not a far-fetched argument.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is a filibuster because the member for Scarborough West is not here to get involved.

Mr. Evans: You are waiting for your leader to come in.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Foulds: Look, you can't have it both ways. When we read documentation into the record, you say we are reading and criticize us for that. If we just make statements, you say there's no documentation.

Mr. Allan: Will you tell us what vote the mines in South Africa are in?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is a good point.

Mr. Evans: You are just waiting for David's little boy to come in. That is who you are waiting for.

Mr. Foulds: If you can't see the relationship you should be listening more closely to my colleague from Nickel Belt.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am glad you were smiling when you said that.

Mr. Martel: I have enough to go another five hours.

Mr. Laughren: I can assure you that we have disciplined ourselves in order to wrap this up tonight.

Mr. Martel: Didn't repeat a thing. Didn't repeat a thing.

Mr. Chairman: You just repeated yourself now when you said you didn't repeat a thing; you said it twice.

Mr. Foulds: Mr. Chairman, he's just underlining a point.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Nickel Belt.

Mr. Martel: I didn't speak on industrial deafness last year.

Mr. Laughren: Mr. Chairman, just to wrap it up, since you find the whole idea of racism by corporations resident in the Province of Ontario offensive, I would just say that at that Blanket Mine the profit per worker is \$3,250 per year while the wages vary between \$150 and \$500. And if you can call that anything other than exploitation and racism, I'd like to know what the word for it is.

Mr. Root: Is that at Sudbury?

Mr. C. E. McIlveen (Oshawa): Is that in Ontario?

An hon. member: Is that true in Ontario —\$150 a year?

Mr. Ferrier: Sudbury makes it possible.

Mr. Laughren: Sudbury makes it possible.

Mr. Root: Oh, come on.

Mr. Laughren: Where do you think they get their surplus to do that? Where do you think they get their money to exploit the third world?

Mr. Stokes: Can you condone that kind of exploitation? Is that what you are saying?

Mr. Laughren: Don't you realize where they get it?

Mr. Evans: We are not talking about that. We are talking about Ontario.

An hon. member: We are on the estimates of the mining industry in Ontario.

Mr. Laughren: No, we are talking about what Ontario is making possible. That is what we are talking about.

Mr. Evans: Mining in Ontario. That is what we are talking about.

Mr. Stokes: Why don't we keep that capital here for our own benefit?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Are we talking about Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and British Columbia?

Mr. Foulds: Would the deputy chairman of Ontario Hydro say that it was not debatable during the Ministry of Energy estimates?

Mr. R. B. Beckett (Brantford): He is not the vice-chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. We are not talking about Hydro. We are talking about—

Mr. Foulds: That's right, I am just trying to draw a parallel for you.

Mr. Chairman: Floyd, you are next. Would you allow your colleague to continue, please?

Mr. Foulds: It's Jim. Floyd is my colleague who is doing very well.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Good, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Laughren: Mr. Chairman, I am sorry you caved in to pressure from the minister on this particular vote.

Mr. Martel: I saw that at 5:30 today.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —straightened you out.

Mr. Martel: Every time the bell goes the committee will disband right there.

Mr. Maack: Go ahead. While you have gone this committee will pass a vote again.

Mr. Martel: We won't even send a—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —good for your blood pressure.

Mr. Laughren: Mr. Chairman, if, as you say, I have made my point, I shall not pursue it further. I would just say that I am

ashamed of those corporations resident in Ontario that have helped to prop up those racist regimes elsewhere, and who exploit workers in the third world.

Mr. Germa: They propped them up in Ontario.

Mr. Laughren: I am ashamed of the uranium companies in the Province of Ontario that so callously ignored the working conditions and problems of industrial diseases in the mines here. And I am disappointed that violations have never been laid against either Denison Mines Ltd. or Rio Algom Mines Ltd. at Elliot Lake. I hope, Mr. Chairman, I leave no doubt in your mind, whatsoever, as to the depth of contempt in which I hold this ministry and its policies regarding the resource industry in Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: So there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to put a few facts on the record. Some—

Mr. Martel: You were going to do that with mines.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —interesting documentation.

Mr. Martel: You start out like a house on fire, but soon fizzle.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The member in his opening remarks, and I won't comment on his final remarks because they are not worthy of comment—

Mr. Laughren: I could say that about the minister.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I just want to point out to him that we are working strenuously on a mineral policy for the Province of Ontario, along with the other provinces of Canada and the federal government. In fact, about a year ago we issued the first of our policy statements on the mineral policy objectives for Canada. We are now actively working on the second phase of that in-depth policy statement, which will be the mineral policy options for Canada. And I would just like to review and perhaps put on the record some of the goals and objectives of our mineral policies for Canada and Ontario.

Our first goal, of course, is to obtain optimum benefit for Canada from present and future uses of minerals. And around this, of course, first come considerations for the

quality of life and sovereignty and unity. Added to that is economic growth and development.

Mr. Martel: That would be new in Ontario, wouldn't it?

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In the quality of life, the first item of importance relates to mineral development for social needs, and of course this would include the identification and encouragement of viable mineral development areas with insufficient employment opportunities; the placing of emphasis on areas that have a long-term potential for mineral development and processing; foreseeing and alleviating mining community dislocations which I am sure many of the members will be very aware of—Promoting income stability—

Mr. Stokes: Can I ask for a little clarification on that one last item?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Stokes: I just want to know, when you are discussing those things, are you going to see what the socio-economic impact is on a community that is a dormitory community for those industries but yet lacks the ability to syphon off a sufficient number of dollars in order to provide basic services?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is part of the overall policy.

Mr. Martel: You are not going to let Dr. Anders in on it, are you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Included in this, of course, we will give weight to the aspirations of indigenous peoples; improve the social and cultural environment of isolated communities; promote income stability; and ensure occupational health, safety and comfort.

Next, under the quality of life, our objectives would be to minimize the adverse effects of mineral development on the environment, and to increase technological capability to minimize environmental degradation; preplan for land use and reclamation; maintain or improve water, air and soil quality; recover, reuse or recycle waste material; safeguard against environmental accidents; improve decision-making by evaluating explicit and implicit costs and benefits to industry and society.

The third portion of the quality of life goal is to foster a viable mineral sector. Included in this we would, as part of our

strategy, identify the mineral potential of favourable geological regions; improve the identification and evaluation of potential benefits from production and processing opportunities; pursue opportunities for marketing minerals and mineral-based products; improve knowledge of industry's behaviour, pricing policies and profitability; integrate and rationalize all governmental policies and practices affecting the industry's operational environment; improve the research, development and innovative process; promote mineral-based industrial development; foster industrial productivity; facilitate the flow of capital and appropriately trained and remunerated labour; encourage a balanced mineral sector structure, which includes a broadly-based ownership of the mineral industry supported by the efforts of the individual prospector and junior exploration firms; encourage understanding and co-operation among governments, industry and labour.

Mr. Stokes: Who is working on that within your ministry now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are working at the deputy minister level down, with the assistant deputy minister and the executive directors.

Mr. Haggerty: That is the year 2000 plan.

Mr. Ferrier: Could you bring copies of that tomorrow?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I will. I just want to put the rest on the record.

Mr. Haggerty: We could cover a great deal of ground.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In the economic growth and development area, we would strengthen the contribution of minerals to regional-national development, and part of that strategy would be to:

Encourage new mineral exploration, mine development and mineral-based manufacturing in high-opportunity areas; undertake development planning in northern regions and territories; manage frontier expansion and settlement; provide transportation and strengthen interregional linkages; facilitate output expansion and product diversification; extend the viable life of mineral operations; ensure the supply and efficient use of investment capital; develop manpower and managerial skills.

Added to that, we would ensure mineral supplies for national needs. We could direct and guide political and economic relations with key foreign countries; encourage pros-

pecting, exploration, development and processing operations for key minerals; identify opportunities suggested by technological changes to influence planning and product development by consuming sectors; develop and maintain comprehensive data on economic mineral reserves and resource potential, both domestic and foreign; undertake research on key submarginal deposits; improve production and consumption efficiency, encourage technological advance, and encourage the development of substitute materials when desirable; recover key materials from domestic and industrial waste; ensure domestic requirements at reasonable and stable prices consistent with maximum returns from orderly export marketing; consider limitations on the rapid exploitation and export of limited supply commodities for which Canada may have great future need.

Added to that, we have as an objective to increase the return to Canadians from exportable mineral surpluses. And, of course, these objectives could include: To establish minimum acceptable standards for contractual arrangements that would provide equitable payment for mineral product exports; encourage the highest possible efficiency and returns associated with all technological research and development in Canada; promote further processing of minerals and mineral products; strengthen federal-provincial co-operation in foreign market development, for example in such areas as commodities, technology and machinery, service industries, Canadian capital, equity and institutional risk; promote the development of secondary industries based on utilization of mineral products; support international arrangements designed to reduce barriers to trade and to overcome supply and demand imbalances.

Mr. Martel: Sounds like a socialist document.

Mr. Chairman: Order please.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: To expand and diversify Canadian access to foreign mineral markets, both by area and by commodity; encourage co-operation with other mineral producing countries.

I would also add as an objective the realization of opportunities for further mineral processing. The strategy could:

Encourage research aimed at expanding uses for minerals and metals; induce the use of investment capital by mining companies to integrate forward; promote and encourage the replacement of imports, including equipment, supplies and services; identify, evaluate and

promote further processing opportunities for minerals and mineral products; undertake and encourage research aimed at developing more efficient methods of winning materials from minerals.

Another objective is to improve mineral conservation and use. The strategy elements could:

Promote optimum recovery from mines, processing and consuming plants; reduce the amount of mineral materials used in the production of goods, but retain product serviceability; facilitate the substitution of abundant for scarce mineral materials; increase the recovery and recycling of scrap and waste materials.

Mr. Martel: Sounds pretty socialistic to me.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In the area of economic growth and development our aim would be to harmonize multiple resource development. The strategy elements could be to:

Undertake co-operative research and joint planning to harmonize development of minerals with development plans for forestry and agriculture; for parks, wildlife and wilderness areas; for recreation areas; for water basin utilization; for urban expansion. We could evaluate all multiple and sequential land-use regulations and procedures; evaluate the economic potential of minerals in areas of current and potential interest to other developers by early geoscience, mineral technology and mineral economic research; improve mechanisms for individual and local community participation in land-use decisions and in adequate resolution of conflicts.

And in the last section, which would be in the area of improvement of sovereignty and unity, we would contribute to the orderly world mineral development and marketing. The strategy there would be to—

Mr. Laughren: You know what that means.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —provide for and evaluate foreign aid in the minerals field to developing countries, recognizing their sovereignty and their wishes—

Mr. Foulds: He is out of order, Mr. Chairman. That is economy.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —maintain and contribute to international co-operation and exchanges; participate in appropriate international mineral supply arrangements; participate in appropriate international commodity agreements; contribute to the establishment of international specifications and standards for products of the minerals sector.

Mr. Laughren: No, the chairman wants it both ways.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: To ensure national self-determination in mineral development, our strategy would be to:

Promote and encourage increased Canadian ownership, control and participation with emphasis on the development of Canadian firms; promote exploration and development at the frontier and in less developed regions; diversify and strengthen overseas relationships and international co-operation; undertake comprehensive surveillance of foreign government and international corporate policies, behaviour and practices—

Mr. Martel: Is this a filibuster?

Mr. Foulds: What was that last point? That was exactly what my friend objected to.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, this is part of our policy.

Mr. Foulds: Part of your policy—and yet the chairman ruled it out of order.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The member spoke for an hour in laying down the policies of his party.

Mr. Chairman: The minister has spoken for two minutes, compared to 15; so I don't mind.

Mr. Laughren: It was not the time you were taking issue with, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: As I said, we would undertake comprehensive surveillance of foreign government and international corporate policies, behaviour and practices, which would—

Mr. Laughren: You are talking out of both sides of your mouth again, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —include pricing, marketing tactics and profits; amount, type and source of capital; research development and innovation—

Mr. Foulds: Why are you guys not objecting now?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —taxation, tariffs, incentives and procedural requirements; purchasing and employment policies; maintain security of key national data and intelligence.

Mr. Stokes: The minister was saying that my colleague was right on.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We would also strengthen the basis for national decision-

making. This would be the final objective under the goal of sovereignty and unity. And under that strategy we would:

Develop an adequate government-industry public information base; improve the inventory of physical, technical and economic characteristics of earth resources available to Canada; interpret industrial and commercial intelligence; provide forecasts of political, social, economic and environmental factors likely to affect the mineral sector; review and identify future domestic and world mineral supply-demand-price situations; assess constraints on Canadian action, including those of a jurisdictional, regulatory and administrative character. We would improve the national decision-making process, improve efficiency in information flows; disseminate relevant data among responsibility centres; provide for consultative linkages within Canada and abroad; monitor and provide evaluation on mineral problems and strategies; and provide for public information, education and participation.

That gives you a brief rundown as to what the mineral policy objectives for Canada really are and where we are going. This has been signed by all the mines ministers from the various provinces, including the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources in Ottawa. This is the first stage of what will be at least five major policy statements. As I said earlier, our next phase will be a mineral policy option for Canada.

So I say to you that we are working and we are moving ahead on policy objectives for our mineral resources in the province in co-operation and in unison with the other provinces in Canada and with the federal government in the national interest.

Mr. Stokes: And it didn't hurt a bit, did it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not a bit.

Mr. Martel: You won't allow Dr. Anders to have any input, will you? Is that a promise? After his draft that I read on "Rent, Communal Property and Economic Nationalism," it seems to me he should bury his head in the sand.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, that outlines to the members just what our goals are and what we hope to achieve and what our strategies will be with regard to the minerals of the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Laughren: It didn't hurt a bit.

Mr. Stokes: I wouldn't disagree with anything you read.

Mr. Laughren: Do you really regard the behaviour of these firms, such as Falconbridge, as elsewhere not being at all within your area of concern?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is in there.

Mr. Laughren: It is not.

Mr. Martel: Why was he ruled out of order then?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is in there.

Mr. Laughren: Why did you rule me out of order if that is the case?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think maybe you were being a little repetitious and long-winded.

Mr. Laughren: I didn't repeat one thing.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is my own personal opinion. The chairman would have the ruling on that.

Mr. Laughren: You told the chairman what to do. Don't hand us that nonsense. This chairman hasn't made an independent decision since he was appointed. Whatever he is getting he is overpaid.

An hon. member: Yes, he did; he adjourned the committee.

Mr. Laughren: I find the Peter Principle offensive, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Chairman: Before we adjourn, would the committee be in favour of meeting from 3 to 6 tomorrow?

Some hon. members: No.

The committee adjourned at 10:25 o'clock, p.m.

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Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Thursday, May 23, 1974

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1974

The committee resumed at 3:20 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES (continued)

On vote 2204:

Mr. Chairman: Items 1 and 2.

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): I didn't think the minister would show up today, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds is the first, followed by Mr. Ferrier.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): If he is not here, maybe I had better go on, had I?

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): I can go on, Bill, if you like.

Mr. Ferrier: I have two things that I want to deal with and then maybe you can follow if necessary. Mr. Allan was making some statements the other night about the involvement of the unions in safety matters and how they weren't saying very much. At least apparently we were given the impression—

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand - Norfolk): I was asking.

Mr. Ferrier: I just want to use that as a lead-in.

Mr. Martel: I thought that would get a rise out of you, Jim.

Mr. Ferrier: As a good sermon starter we have to have an introduction.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): It sounds like you are going to get crucified.

Mr. Allan: Do you have to have little foundation for the sermon too?

Mr. Ferrier: Oh, I have the foundation, but you have to sort of get the people's attention to start.

Now, we were sort of led to believe that

the unions weren't altogether dissatisfied with some of the things that were going on. I was at a meeting in Sault Ste. Marie of the northern Ontario NDP riding associations and this matter of mining safety was kicked around a lot. I have an article here that appeared in the Sudbury Star of March 27, 1974, and it quotes extensively from statements by Gib Gilchrist who is a Sudbury area United Steelworkers' supervisor. I want to quote a little bit from this because it makes a very worthwhile point. He says:

Appointment of mine inspectors from among the hourly rated employees in the mining industry by the Ministry of Natural Resources mines branch, is being sought by delegates to a provincial mines safety seminar held Tuesday in Sudbury, sponsored by the United Steelworkers of America, Local 6500.

We are unhappy with the fact that the Mining Act does not provide for mining inspectors as such. All we have are some mining engineers, said Gib Gilchrist, Sudbury area United Steelworkers of America supervisor. He pointed out that while the ministry employs over 800 persons in the protection of fish and game, they don't have one inspector in the mines branch.

While engineers are hired by the ministry, their relation to the mining industry is because they have to make sure the mine operates properly, said Gilchrist. He suggested that the government recruit inspectors from the work force to look after mining safety. It only hires engineers who are pro-management, said Gilchrist. Appointment of inspectors from among the work force would eliminate this problem, he said.

... Mining engineers in the inspection branch are either former mine directors or come directly from mine management ranks. [Paul Falkowski made that statement.] We want equal participation by the employees. It seems odd that you can have a mining safety association in Ontario in which the 40,000 miners in the province are not represented.

Mr. Martel: Did you hear that, Jim?

Mr. Ferrier: Continuing:

The workers are the ones who get killed or maimed as a result of bad legislation which is poorly administered, he stated.

Mr. Laughren: Wrong again, Jim?

Mr. Ferrier: It goes on:

There were 453 deaths over the past 20 years in Ontario mines. Miners risking their lives daily at work should have a voice where safety is concerned.

These are pretty strong statements, but they are very reasonable statements by Gilchrist who represents the union which represents the majority of the miners in this province.

It seems to me that we should get legislation or changes in the regulations, whatever is necessary, to appoint mining safety inspectors, men who are long-time experienced miners themselves, and have these men in each of the major communities where there are mines. They should make regular inspections with their attention directed entirely to safety and they should have power to make forced changes with these mines.

By their being in liaison with the actual work force and having come from that segment of the industry and having been concerned with this from their own personal point of view and having fellowship, in a sense, with other miners I think there would be great improvement in the working conditions in the mines. We would have the men making the input which should be made. I would hope the minister will give serious consideration to this and would implement it. I would like him to say what his reaction is to that proposal by Gib Gilchrist and the United Steelworkers of America, who represent the majority of the miners in this province.

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): Mr. Chairman, if I may comment briefly, I would say that in our selection of those individuals who act as mine inspectors we are very cognizant, of course, that they be experienced and that they have complete knowledge of the mining industry. I would say to you I'm very proud of the people we have in the field.

Mr. Martel: It doesn't take much to make you proud.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are an excellent group. I think the province and the public can be proud of the dedicated men we have working as mine inspectors. I would dare

say that every one of them has spent time underground, has spent time working in the mines, working his way up through the various fields of the industry, so he is completely knowledgeable on all aspects of the mining industry. To say it we should totally hire people who may not be fully qualified, I just can't accept that, really. Because they are miners it doesn't mean to say they are fully qualified to administer the Act and to act as inspectors which is a highly technical requirement.

Mr. Martel: Because they are engineers, it doesn't mean they meet the same criteria in reverse.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Certainly, if you have somebody you think is qualified we'd be glad to consider him; really we would.

Mr. Ferrier: You are taking a kind of an elitist point of view though, that—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not at all. Not at all.

Mr. Ferrier: —only the people who have gone to university and got an engineering degree are qualified to act as inspectors in your mines. Even in British Columbia now they are, I think, issuing a certificate giving some status to miners, pointing out that while there is a lot of hard work, it is still a very skilled field and you have to have a fair degree of expertise to do many of the major jobs in the mine.

There are two things that are implicit in my question arising out of these statements by Gib Gilchrist; one is that your present mine inspection is geared as much to the operation of the mine as it is to safety procedures. Reading between the lines from what he said, and having talked to him, I believe not enough attention is being focused on the actual working areas of the mines and the problems that the miners face in those areas. I don't think that too many of your engineers would have spent much time doing hard slugging and the actual work and I don't know that they would have the same perspective as underground men would.

I just feel that probably the first thing on your civil service qualification is that before you will hire him for one of these jobs a man has to be a graduate of an accepted university with an engineering degree or—you might even have to come down a wee bit—of the Haileybury school of mines; a graduate of there is a technician. But other than that, really I think you could expand this programme and make men with this back-

ground be responsible for one particular aspect.

I have sat in the Legislature through seven mining estimates now and every year there has been great dissatisfaction with the mining safety legislation and the way it is enforced in this province. It has been the centre of the most heated debate that has taken place here and it is obvious that there is something glaringly wrong. I have talked to miners in my own area and there is a good deal of dissatisfaction. So here is one way that you can improve the situation and it is being asked for by the working people of the province and by their duly constituted representatives, and I hope that you are not just going to say, "Everything is fine and rosy and we have got the best men in the province. We have got no problems," because that isn't the case, as has been borne out here.

I think that here is one response that you can make to bring improvement. Why don't you give it a try to see if it will make these working conditions much better and cut down on the real sense of grievance and the breakdown in health that is taking place? I tell you when your health goes life is greatly curtailed—and it is not only the individual, it is his family too.

This is a very, very accident-prone industry in this province. There are no two ways about that. Probably there is no other industry that has as many accidents. Surely we can cut down on the incidence of accidents and bring improvements in the areas of noise and air conditioning. These are problems that even the federal government—I don't know what they are doing but they have a group of projects aimed at improving the quality of mine working conditions with research being carried out on dust, radiation and noise, the things that have been brought up here. It would appear that the federal government recognizes the problem, so if this is the case, even if they bring in a number of suggestions there must be broader inspection to make sure that whatever is recommended — when it is recommended — is complied with.

I hope that Gib Gilchrist's strong feelings are not sloughed off like so many things seem to be by this ministry and that you do give attention to them and implement these requests that he so legitimately makes on behalf of the many, many miners, particularly in northern Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, to say that we should lower our standards,—

Mr. Martel: Nobody is suggesting that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —lower our quality of trained people to act as mine inspectors, to me is just not acceptable. I think if we had people who were not fully qualified or fully knowledgeable and were not able to converse with the mining community—

Mr. Lewis: What mining community? Mine inspectors don't talk to the workers anyway.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —in a very sound and sensible way, you would be the first one to criticize us if we didn't have these qualified people.

Mr. Ferrier: No, I wouldn't, because I have asked you to implement it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And get the best people in the business, people who are knowledgeable, who are experienced. I just can't accept the fact that because a man is a diamond driller he would make a good mine inspector. I just can't accept that.

Mr. J. F. Foulds (Port Arthur): Just because he has worked for management doesn't make him a good mine inspector either.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And the best in the business—

Mr. Ferrier: Some of these men know more about it than a guy who has a university degree.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Because he has a university degree doesn't disqualify him from practical knowledge. I just can't accept that.

Mr. Ferrier: I will tell you this—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's a very, very weak argument on your part.

Mr. Ferrier: I will tell you this: A lot of us have got a lot of background in university—

Mr. Martel: What did you do to get to be Minister of Mines? You don't know the first damn thing about it, you should resign.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Same to you as a member of parliament.

Mr. Ferrier: And I learned more in two years out, in my first charge, than I learned at university.

An hon. member: You should resign.

Mr. Ferrier: You can learn an awful lot in practical things by actually doing.

Mr. Haggerty: Experience is the best teacher.

Mr. Ferrier: You are just downgrading the working man and saying that he doesn't know—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am not.

Mr. Ferrier: And if you knew a lot of these miners and their expertise you wouldn't be making that kind of statement.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Our inspectors have practical knowledge.

Mr. Lewis: How many of them have come from the ranks?

Mr. Ferrier: I am not arguing that you do away with the inspectors. What I am suggesting is you recruit another group of men concerned primarily with safety and the working conditions underground, to be there to make the tests, and not have company making the tests and handing it over to you.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Now you are mixing up apples and oranges.

Mr. Ferrier: That is open to distortion and a lot of bogus stuff and we have had that kind of thing at Denison Mines, and now you have got a whole bunch of men with serious lung conditions—with cancer. Have you ever been told that maybe you might have cancer? I was told this not too long ago and had to undergo a number of other tests and I can tell you it was one heck of a time to live through. Fortunately I was told I didn't have it. But by George, if you have got men who have it and are dying very quickly, it is a heck of a way to end your life and to see your family sit by and suffer.

Mr. Martel: I think you are a disgrace, Leo.

Mr. Ferrier: I think this has been a terribly embarrassing upsetting experience, seeing the responses that we have got to this very, very serious human situation that is existing among the miners in this province.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, I want to get on to another topic dealing with mining management — I guess mineral management, and that deals with the pit and quarry operations in Ontario and the Beach Protection Act that deals with so-called removable sand and gravel along the lakeshore. In many instances they are almost carrying on a pit operation.

I would like to present to the minister some photos. They are pictures taken along the shoreline in Welland South where you have allowed pit operators to go in there and remove the sandhills. You can see the serious condition that exists now where the sandhill is removed and the water is going over what remains of the existing bank causing flooding conditions to the cottage owners behind the sandhills. I bring it to the attention of the minister hoping that his staff will do some inspection in that area.

Last year and for a couple of years I have brought the matter to his attention—the pit operations that are continuing to function on the Point Abino area there in the sandhills along the Point Abino road. I have been in contact with his staff concerning the matter, concerning whether you are going to allow them to come in under the Pits and Quarries Control Act, and I understand that you are going to allow this operator to conform under the Pits and Quarries Control Act. The Buffalo Yacht Club owns the property, where they are removing large sandhills and they are using the material for road-building purposes—or an asphalt plant in the area. They are operating outside the law. You have no control over it. The property is not being fenced in and I was just wondering—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Is the township designated under the Pits and Quarries Control Act?

Mr. Haggerty: The town? Yes, the town of Fort Erie is presently designated under the Pits and Quarries Control Act.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do they have a licence to operate?

Mr. Haggerty: I don't know if they have a licence to operate or not but they are operating.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This is under the Beach Protection Act, isn't it?

Mr. Haggerty: No, no, that's pit operators. You can't push that off on to me.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But what are we talking about?

Mr. Haggerty: Sure, they obtained a licence under the Beach Protection Act to remove sand along the lakeshore. But they are removing a bank, a protective bank, and when you start moving a sandhill, then I suggest that it comes under the Pits and Quarries Control Act. There is no difference between

that type of operation and what's continuing to operate out in the Fonthill area where you have the sand and gravel pit operators in that area. It is the same type of business. They are using it for the same thing—for building of homes, road-building purposes and so forth.

This one in Point Abino is in a municipal restricted area which is strictly residential. You have allowed them to continue to operate for the last 10 years, I believe. It makes no difference to me whether you allow them to operate or not, but if you are going to allow them to operate, then surely you should give them the licence to do it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will have that investigated.

Mr. Haggerty: You said that two or three years ago.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, there must be some confusion or—

Mr. Haggerty: There's no confusion. It is just that your department is lax in enforcing much of the Pits and Quarries Control Act. There are pit operators in the area, as I have said, who remove sandhills and cause serious erosion problems later on, and there's no inspection at all from your department in this matter. I have seen where, with stone quarry operations, your department has been very strict on a certain one or two quarry operators but not all. I would like to see the minister perhaps move into that direction at the Buffalo Yacht Club.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will have a look at this particular situation and just see where it lies at this point in time.

Mr. Haggerty: Surely, somebody from your staff must be aware of it. Maybe somebody from your staff would like to make a few comments on this?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Are you aware of this situation?

Mr. G. A. Jewett (Executive Director, Division of Mines): No, I am not, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, we have nobody here who is knowledgeable on this individual case, but we would be glad to follow it up and check on it.

Mr. Haggerty: I suggest that they are operating outside the law and if you are going to have a law that applies there, it should apply to all pit operators.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, we enforce the Pits and Quarries Control Act very rigidly. If they comply and they fall under that Act, then they will be governed accordingly.

Mr. Haggerty: Does your department control anything to do with the peat operations in Ontario? This is where you have operators who go in and you might say they are mining it. It's under the Department of Agriculture; no, it's not under the Department of Agriculture, either. This is where you allow them to go in and strip off so many feet of peat. It is being exported in my particular area. Are there any controls on this at all?

Mr. Jewett: To my knowledge there are not, as there are not on people who are taking turf off. It's a much similar type of operation. I think I can recall one inquiry but I don't believe we have any control over it.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, through you, Mr. Chairman, has the ministry given any consideration to perhaps bringing in some type of control on this type of operation, or on the topsoil or turf business that has—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Up to this point in time, we have not.

Mr. Haggerty: —continued to operate in some localities pretty successfully? There is nothing on that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Nothing on that. It's off private lands in many cases.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, it's off private lands, but again I think—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Turf replaces itself so there's no real damage done through erosion.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, yes, but there is a certain removal of topsoil and that goes along with it. I think about an inch or an inch and a half or something like that each time they take a strip of turf off. But the question is, how are they assessed? You see, they are only assessed as normal farmland.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Agricultural land; it's like taking a crop off.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, you can say it's a different type of crop, though. I mean they are not actually replacing anything, are they? Once it gets down to removing the topsoil, you have nothing but bare land left and then what do you have? I guess your department does control some 95 per cent of the lands in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Crown lands, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: But I think you should be branching out further than this, to see that there are some controls later on, and that there is a safety valve for rehabilitation after the topsoil is removed. If not, you're going to have barren land throughout the communities.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It has not come to my attention as a matter of urgency, really. We're aware that it is going on and there are some very lucrative businesses established.

Mr. Haggerty: That is right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But as to any damage to the environment—

Mr. Haggerty: Eventually it will, though, will it not? You're improving the environment in one place, but then you're removing that from some other source and this could perhaps cause serious damage later.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Other areas have a higher priority—

Mr. Haggerty: I wondered if perhaps you should be looking into that. The other matter deals with gas production on Lake Erie. I believe we have a report here concerning the gas production. What are you going to do about the oil that has been found in Lake Erie? There must be some wells that give an indication of good sources of oil.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I've just been informed that there are a few wells that show signs of oil. These have all been capped. The Minister of Energy (Mr. McKeough) is presently reviewing the situation from a broad point of view.

Mr. Haggerty: What do you mean by "a broad point of view"? You're going to allow them to bring in production, are you?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. The minister is looking at the risk that may occur from the development of these particular wells and, of course, the urgency of bringing them into production. If they are of a size—

Mr. Haggerty: Are there any indications of the amount of flow of crude oil?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know. Mr. Jewett might know.

Mr. Jewett: I have just called for the expert in this area to come over and we can give you an answer in a short time. My information is limited, but I will have Mr. McLean here in a little while and he can reply to that question for you.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He will be here shortly.

Mr. Haggerty: Oh, I see. Are there any gas wells in the Huron-Bruce area that have been capped? That they're not bringing into production? I understand there have been wells drilled up there and that there is a sufficient supply of natural gas, but they're not bringing it into production as yet.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will have one of the technical people here to answer that question for you.

Mr. Haggerty: How many test wells have been drilled in the Hudson and James Bay areas in the last year?

Mr. Jewett: We'll confirm that with Doug McLean, but I believe they started one hole and because of a thaw in the middle of January they had to move out very quickly. There were no holes really completed. There was a rig in there on a programme of two to three holes, but they were not able even to complete the first hole.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Was that Aquitaine?

Mr. Jewett: I believe so. I would have to confirm that.

Mr. Haggerty: Have there been any signs of a sufficient amount of gas in that area?

Mr. Jewett: My understanding is, no. But I'll put that question to Doug McLean when he arrives.

Mr. Haggerty: Are there any indications, through your department, of issuing licences to drill in Hudson Bay and in James Bay?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, you're into a very complex area here. We're into the question of who controls offshore drilling. I'm sure you are aware of the problems that the maritime provinces and British Columbia are having in their fight with the federal government. At the present time the federal government claims jurisdiction in an area off the—what is it, a mile off the shore, George?

Mr. Jewett: Yes, I believe so.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's about a mile offshore that we control. From then on, the federal government does control the offshore drilling.

Mr. Haggerty: Are you saying that James Bay is not an inland waterway?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We think it is, but we haven't convinced the federal government of this.

It's a very legal problem. The actual definition of the boundaries of the Province of Ontario come into effect and the federal government feels that the boundary is a mile offshore. We've had meetings with the provinces of Manitoba and Quebec on this situation. We feel, at least from the Quebec and the Ontario points of view, that the border running up to the base of James Bay should be extended directly north, taking a slight deviation for the Belcher Islands and continuing up to the 60th parallel, and then it should connect with the line that comes across from the top of Manitoba. We feel that is an area that rightfully belongs to Ontario and we should control it; but we've not made any headway in our discussions with the federal government on this proposal.

Mr. Haggerty: There has been no exploration in that area at all?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, there is some exploration. There has been and there is some more going on; but it's strictly under the control of the federal government at the present time.

Mr. Haggerty: The proposed dock facilities in that area—where are they going to be located? What type of a facility are you going to construct in that area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There is nothing formulated on that. I think it is a theory that has been advanced and it has certain possibilities. It is my understanding that if there was a groyne about three to four miles in length built out from a point about 20 or 30 miles north of James Bay, that it would lend itself very well to a deep-sea port.

Mr. Haggerty: That is beyond the flats, then?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, beyond the flats; about three or four miles out from the flats—because the water levels at that point are about 100 ft deep.

Now, this of course, would lend itself to ocean-going vessels, but it's only in the very, very preliminary—

Mr. Haggerty: It was indicated in the Throne Speech that you were moving in that direction.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Is it feasible at all—what about the ice conditions?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: As I understand it, and from reports I've read, if all these things fall in line and if there is the water depth there that they feel there is—and they've done certain soundings—that the ice conditions would be much better there than say, in the Churchill area of Manitoba. And it could well be developed as an ocean port. It would be open for a longer period of time than is presently being done now at Churchill, Man.

There is one problem that would occur, I'm told. In the Hudson Bay straits, because of ice conditions occurring there, that this may curtail the movement of ships through that particular area. It would have to fall in line with what is going on at Churchill.

Mr. Haggerty: I thought one of the purposes for constructing this port was to bring in the supply of natural gas from the eastern islands in that area too.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that they are looking at a number of alternatives; a number of options. We are well aware they are looking at the possibility of a gas pipeline from the Arctic islands; one going through northern Ontario down through the west side of Hudson Bay. I think it is fair to say that the Province of Quebec is very interested in crossing through Hudson straits and coming down through that province into the urban area of Montreal.

The problem, as I understand it, is the tremendous distance underwater that would have to be crossed by a pipe-line that was constructed into the Province of Quebec. It would have to cross 30 or 40 miles of water and under anywhere from 18 to 20 ft of ice.

Mr. Haggerty: But they still have that problem though when they bring the gas in from the islands to the mainland, don't they?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. That's right.

Mr. Haggerty: They still have to cross that gap?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's a problem they are working on now. The Polar Gas Project, which is a federally assisted corporation, along with TransCanada Pipe Lines are up there now experimenting and doing research on the possible movement of natural gas and crude oil from the Arctic islands.

Mr. Haggerty: What part will your ministry play in this development in this area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will be working very closely with the Minister of Energy,

Mr. Chairman. They are carrying the ball at the present time with regard to polar gas. As was referred to in the Throne Speech, we will be very much involved, of course, if there is any planning or in development of a pipeline that would come through north-west Ontario and connect up to the polar pipeline.

Mr. Haggerty: Will it come through Polar Bear Park?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh, no. No.

Mr. Haggerty: No?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, there's no danger of that.

Mr. Haggerty: No danger of that, eh?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No danger of that—no, it comes farther west.

One route that I saw would come down south of Fort Severn and come around in around Longlac, Ont., and connect up to the main line. There are a number of different routes that it could take. And there hasn't been that much research done on the terrain in that particular area; the possible locations of a route—it's just on a map sort of deal.

Mr. Haggerty: To go back to this docking facility as proposed by the government—I understand that there was a study or a report some 10 or 15 years ago and they thought it wasn't feasible at that time due to the quicksands. It wasn't too sound a base to put in the proper wharfing and docking facilities.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think at that time that was the only information that was available. But this is new information that has become available following the further research and further examination of the water tables in that particular area.

I might say that Bell Canada did a very extensive study of the west coast of Hudson Bay. In their reports, Winisk was the next location for a possible development of a deep-sea port. But that's some distance up the coast. Here again, the water temperatures, the water movement and the sheltered harbour were the reasons for that particular decision.

Mr. Haggerty: But what goods would they be moving out of that area then? You were talking about a deep-sea port.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I think we are getting into the details and—

Mr. Haggerty: Details, this is quite true. But are you going to make Fort William a ghost town perhaps—are you going to be moving all the grain to that area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I think there will be enough activity up there in mineral exploration and oil exploration that there would be a requirement. They might bring the oil down by tanker to a pipeline or a docking facility. There are a number of different options open and uses that could be made because the Province of Ontario doesn't have an ocean port per se, and this may well be much better than having to use the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence Seaway system. But it is only a concept now. It has to be studied in greater detail. I think the indication was that this is the route that we were going to go; it may well be that it will not be feasible. We don't know.

Mr. Haggerty: There is one other question I want to ask the minister under the Pits and Quarries Control Act. There is a great deal of power vested in the minister under the Act. Would his powers override any local municipal by-law that would control—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: In other words, if under municipal planning they defined an area and said these are the boundaries for a pit or a quarry operation, could you override that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, we can't because the municipality has the final veto power on the issuance of a new quarry. That is—

Mr. Haggerty: That's on a new quarry, but on an existing quarry.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: An existing quarry? We comply with the legal non-conforming-use aspect. If the pit is in operation and if after they have filed with us their rehabilitation site plans, it takes in that area that they are presently operating, and it may be zoned differently than what they are using it for, then it becomes a legal non-conforming use.

I have to say to you that a tremendous amount of confusion arises from this particular aspect of the Act, because the Act was not designed to control retroactively the development of quarries and gravel pits. It was primarily designed to begin rehabilitation from the day that that township was designated, so that we can't go back. We can control the rehabilitation of that pit and quarry, if it is in an operational state, from here on in as they work that particular area. Of course, if there is a new site to be developed, then the municipal council has the veto power.

Mr. Haggerty: Just on the new site. But extending the boundaries under their existing operations, you are the person that has the power and authority to extend those boundaries then.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, if it is part of the rehabilitation site plan, that is filed with us on the initial application. But you must realize that it is not an annual renewable licence. The licence is renewed by annual inspection—annual inspection. The complying with the Act, the complying with their rehabilitation site plan, constitutes a renewal of that particular licence.

Mr. Haggerty: Have you been approached by Canada Cement-Lafarge Ltd. of Montreal to open up a new pit or quarry operation in the township of Wainfleet?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know. We receive hundreds of applications. I don't know. Harold, would you know of that particular application. I could get that information for you.

Mr. Haggerty: I think they approached local council to reopen their quarries in that area. Where at one time they were operating just to remove the limestone section of the rock, now they want to go down some 30 or 40 ft and perhaps export it to the States. I was wondering if you had been approached on that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Jewett says there is at least an application before us now and we are dealing with it.

Mr. Haggerty: You are dealing with it, are you? If a municipality has a bylaw which says it doesn't want the opening up again of the pit or quarry, you are going to—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The thing is, what constitutes an existing operation? This has been one of our problems.

Mr. Haggerty: They have pulled out of the area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If they can prove that was a commercial operation, although they may not have operated it for the last year or two—

Mr. Haggerty: They have closed their plant down; they have demolished their plant and are completely out of the area. I suppose they find now that there is a good market for exported stone and they want to open it up again.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If there had been an interruption in the commercial operation, as you point out, and they have completely removed themselves from the area, it would be considered a new application and the municipality would have the veto power.

Mr. Haggerty: That is the way I understand it; perhaps the municipality will understand it, too.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I might say, Mr. Haggerty, that Mr. McLean, who is our expert from the petroleum resources branch, is here and he could answer your questions with regard to gas in Lake Erie and in the Hudson Bay lowlands.

Mr. Haggerty: I believe the question I asked through the chairman to the minister was, how many oil wells in Lake Erie have been capped?

Mr. D. D. McLean (Supervisor, Petroleum Resources Section): Considering that in the early 1950s there were two oil wells very close to shore, off Essex county, which were plugged in the 1960s with very little production from them, since that time two wells have encountered oil but they have not been produced. They were immediately plugged. The licences of occupation in Lake Erie provide for gas only in production. Any well encountering oil must be plugged.

Mr. Haggerty: Has there been any estimated flow from these wells?

Mr. McLean: No, there has not. The indications are that the pools would not be economical to develop because of the logistics of ice flow, the fresh water environment, etc. I should point out, too, that in 1970 the International Joint Commission held hearings on the status of drilling in Lake Erie. The recommendations found only the operation of gas production to be a safe and viable one in the lake and recommended that all wells encountering oil be immediately plugged. These recommendations were subsequently adopted and approved by our cabinet.

Mr. Chairman: I wonder, gentlemen, if we could get you to speak up a little louder? I am sitting here and I find it difficult because there is quite a bit of whispering going on; if we could just get you to speak a little louder.

Mr. Haggerty: Have any gas wells drilled in the Grey-Bruce area or Huron-Bruce area been capped?

Mr. McLean: In the lakes?

Mr. Haggerty: No, on land.

Mr. McLean: There are two small gas pools in Bruce county.

Mr. Haggerty: Bruce county?

Mr. McLean: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Are they in production?

Mr. McLean: I am sorry, in Huron county. There was an old one in 1940 in Bruce county.

Mr. Haggerty: Are they in production now?

Mr. McLean: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: They are?

Mr. McLean: Yes, but they are very marginal.

Mr. Haggerty: Are there any further explorations?

Mr. McLean: Yes. We have explorations there right now and I expect a significant exploration to occur there in the ensuing year.

Mr. Haggerty: Who is drilling in that area?

Mr. McLean: At the moment, a company called J. B. McClusky.

Mr. Haggerty: Are they from the western—

Mr. McLean: No, from Toronto.

Mr. Haggerty: From Toronto?

Mr. McLean: Yes. There was also an operator by the name of Fitzpatrick from Houston, Texas, who drilled there last year. He did not have any success with his operations. I don't know if he will be back. He does hold leases there.

Mr. Haggerty: Those are all the questions I have. Can I have one more question? I would like to deal with this matter of the grant to the 10th Commonwealth Mining and Metallurgical Congress, I guess it is, \$10,000. What is that expenditure for?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is a congress with regard to the mining community. Maybe Mr. Jewett could elaborate in detail for you.

Mr. Jewett: This is an exchange of technical information by people within the Commonwealth in the mining industry. It occurs every four years and it moves around the various countries of the Commonwealth. I

believe the last time it was held in Australia. The federal government requested that the provinces assist in the funding of the organization of the conference this year, and Ontario has made a contribution toward the secretarial and supportive roles of the people who have to organize the multiplicity of trips. There are about 700 delegates coming, and they will visit virtually all mining communities from one coast of Canada to the other during the month of September this year. This has required a great deal of logistics and a great deal of organization, and I believe all provinces are contributing on a pro rata basis to the support of this conference.

Mr. Haggerty: Is this money well spent?

Mr. Jewett: I believe it to be, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Could you not, perhaps, apply the \$10,000 more appropriately to mine rescue training or safety matters in mines in Ontario? Would the \$10,000 not be spent more appropriately for that type of—

Mr. Jewett: That would not purchase one man.

Mr. Haggerty: I beg your pardon?

Mr. Jewett: That would not purchase one man.

Mr. Haggerty: No, I am talking about in training or educational programmes, through—

Mr. Jewett: I think the minister had better answer that question.

Mr. Haggerty: Pardon? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The question was directed to the minister. Would the \$10,000 being spent on the 10th Commonwealth Mining Congress not be better spent on education for miners in Ontario, on smelters, or perhaps to improve some of the hazardous conditions that exist in mines or to improve the environment of the mines.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think you could use that argument for a number of different purposes, Mr. Chairman. We felt a responsibility as part of the Commonwealth, because, as these various congresses are periodically held throughout the Commonwealth, other provinces, states and countries contribute to this very worthwhile research exercise. You know, not that we want to be niggardly—

Mr. Haggerty: You mean each province is paying \$10,000, then?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: In other words, you are talking almost \$100,000 for the sponsoring of this congress?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's correct.

Mr. Haggerty: That's quite a bit of money, isn't it? And yet we provide little in safety, perhaps, and education for the miners and—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This is only a one-year shot.

Mr. Haggerty: A one-year shot? Thank God it is only a one-year shot. One hundred thousand dollars is a big shot.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There are quite a number of experts—

Mr. Jewett: I believe the total attendance is predicted to be about 750.

Mr. Haggerty: What is the input in cost, then, to the mining industry itself, to the companies and corporations involved?

Mr. Jewett: The people on the congress themselves bear all their own travel expenses. When they visit the various properties, they are entertained and housed at the expense of the mining companies.

Mr. Haggerty: In other words, you are talking of almost \$250,000 for this congress? I am talking about what it would cost Canadians.

Mr. Jewett: I don't know what the figures are. All I know about is the funding required by Ottawa for the organization of the congress. That's the only knowledge I have in terms of the congress.

Mr. Haggerty: The federal government provides another \$100,000, so you are talking, maybe, \$500,000 in round figures.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The federal government's contribution is quite handsome, I must admit.

Mr. Haggerty: Quite handsome.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's an exchange of ideas of research.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): You admit that, that's a switch.

Mr. Haggerty: When you are talking about the overall expenditure taken into consideration on this particular vote, then that's a lot of money that perhaps could be put to better use in the care of the miners themselves. I

think sometimes you can go overboard on it, and I think in this case perhaps you have.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like to give my place to the member for Scarborough West.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): I appreciate that, I appreciate my colleague and I appreciate the Chair.

As the minister knows, I want to raise some matters about Elliot Lake and uranium mining, past and present, and I want to do it specifically and reflectively. I don't pretend that I have everything coherently in mind, because I admit at the outset that there is a great deal one must learn about all of this, and pick up and absorb. It isn't easy.

We are obviously going to pursue this, as a caucus, as part of a theme, through the estimates of Health and through the estimates of Labour, when the Workmen's Compensation Board comes before the committee, because there is a great deal here that needs talking about and there are a great many questions that need answering.

I've listened carefully to the remarks of my colleague from Sudbury East, who knows a great deal and who has a great deal of information on the subject on a personal basis. I read very carefully the Hansard of last Tuesday night in which my colleague from Nickel Belt, Floyd Laughren, put on the record what I thought was a rather feeling statement about the way in which one responds to the Elliot Lake predicament in encountering the people who have been affected by what has occurred.

Floyd and the person who works most closely with me in research, Linda Thomas, went up to Elliot Lake not so very long ago and interviewed a number of the families who are in a very critical state, emotionally and physically. I took the liberty of going up to Elliot Lake as recently as Tuesday night, met at some considerable length, for some hours, with the health and safety committee of both Rio Algom and Denison, looked through their files on Wednesday, and spoke to Mr. de Bastiani of Denison, both before I went and on Wednesday, inviting myself to accompany Gib Gilchrist, the Steelworkers regional director, and Paul Falkowski, their health and safety man, on a tour of Denison which they took from 8:30 to 11 yesterday morning.

Mr. de Bastiani was relatively cordial on the phone. He was not particularly pleased about the idea of my seeing the mine, and

indicated that I couldn't go. I told him that was too bad, we would obviously talk about it, and maybe the opportunity would come again. It seemed a particular pity to me since we were going to be discussing these matters in the estimates, but those things happen.

I met yesterday as well with a number of individual workers in the mine and think—having read a good deal of material and spoken to a lot of people on the spot, and listened to my colleagues and dealt with those who are knowledgeable and informed in the area—that I have a number of impressions which are beginning to cohere, and I want to put some of them on the record. As a matter of fact, I feel almost a moral imperative about it, akin to Floyd Laughren's feelings.

I want to put it in a perspective and context which I think needs stating and restating over the next number of months, because it was stated and restated to me by the miners and many of those affected when I was in Elliot Lake.

It's impossible to dissociate all of this from the recollection of I think the madness that possessed North American society in the production of atomic nuclear weapons in the mid-1950s, late 1950s and early 1960s. The nuclear race which generated the establishment of the mines and what occurred in the earliest years coloured the whole environmental condition.

There is an extraordinary range of documentation about it. The United States, of course, was brought up short in the late 1960s when a large number of miners in Colorado began systematically to die from lung cancer, which was quickly related to the exposure to the radon daughters, as they are called, in the uranium mines. And there were some things said about it which I want to put on the record, as I say, just as part of the history.

There are really some quite remarkable documents on record, Mr. Chairman. I want to emphasize that at the outset. There are efforts made in this committee, from time to time in response to my colleague from Sudbury East, and there are implications raised that people weren't as aware of what was going on, people weren't as clued in about what was going on, that all of it has taken us by surprise. I am going to try to erect an argument in the next little while which shows that everybody was aware and that extraordinary things were not done in the light of that awareness.

There was a fascinating hearing before the select subcommittee on labour of the committee on education and labour in the House

of Representatives in April of 1968 when Esther Peterson, the Assistant Secretary of Labour, investigating at the time uranium contamination, pointed out the nuclear race as the genesis, and then said:

But occasionally during the race into the future our haste creates not a perfect result but only a satisfactory one slightly marred by a few imperfections. It is this latter situation that brings us here today. The uranium mining industry, through government sponsorship, has offered a new and better tomorrow. It has unleashed the full potential of atomic energy, and its future benefits to mankind are limited only by our imaginations.

But there has been an unfortunate imperfection in all of this. Only recently were the tragic consequences of lung cancer and certain death revealed as a deadly by-product of mining uranium. This immediately raised the issue of safety.

The stress in the newness of large-scale uranium ore mining geared to war production left little room for concern about ionizing. The fact is that knowledge of the danger was meagre. Production and safety were in no sense in step. As a result, miners during that period of heavy production were subjected to dangerously high exposures without anyone—industry, labour or the government—being fully aware of the deaths that were being planted. The air in mines normally contains many dust particles potentially injurious to the respiratory system. Added in the uranium mines is the hazard of the radioactive decayed products of radon which tear the lungs with malignant fingers.

That is a kind of graphic phrase. Perhaps it is a little more telling than the reference to imperfection in the United States exploration. That was in 1968 when the full consequences of the damage being done to human health and human life were most apparent. It was a committee hearing, Mr. Chairman, at which a number of Canadians were present, and I have no doubt that people with the history of Mr. Jewett and others who were involved in Rio Algom, Denison, and so on, must surely have recognized—since they were, in effect, contractual agents of the United States government—the implications for Canadian miners.

At the time, the focus, as I understand it, was largely on lung cancer. The next year, in March of 1969, there were hearings again in the United States on radiation standards for uranium mining and they were before

the subcommittee on research development and radiation. Again I want to quote very briefly from secretary Robert Finch. He was the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. He said at the hearing:

We do not know at what precise exposure level uranium miners may be exposed without significantly increasing the risk of lung cancer. But we do know that the observed mortality rates from the disease in the lower exposure categories are all higher than the expected rates.

That is a most important caution which very few paid attention to. From the Federal Radiation Council there came this observation. I am choosing selectively some of these passages because they bear directly on Elliot Lake in 1974.

First, a long latent period, that is, the time between the cancer-inducing radiation dose and the appearance of the cancer in the miner in the lower-exposure categories may well result in larger than expected numbers of lung cancer cases appearing in miners in these categories in the future and a further strengthening of the causal association in these categories. Most cases of lung cancer among uranium miners have appeared 10 or more years following initial exposure. There is evidence that the latent period increases as the dose decreases. Since lung cancer in uranium miners is almost always fatal, the possibility of appearance of larger numbers of lung cancer cases after a prolonged latent period must be compensated for in providing guidance and setting standards.

This was picked up the same year by the Under-Secretary of Labour, James Hodgson, who came before the committee to discuss the kinds of emission levels of radiation which were seen at that time to be tolerable in a uranium mine, as I understand it. The calculation is highly complicated. I don't pretend to understand it all. But as I grasp it generally there is something called a working level, an overall working level exposure, which is considered safe or marginally safe, which works out to what they call WLMs—working level months—the number of months that a miner can work over a given year at that level of exposure. And when Mr. Hodgson went before the committee, he pointed out:

There is statistically significant increase in the lung cancer risk for miners with approximately 100 to 400 working level months' exposure that cannot be explained by any known artifact of the data. The

hypothesis is favoured pending more definitive data that radiation exposure at least contributed to the excess lung cancer observed in the miners in the 100-to-400-working-level-month category.

And then the federal departments in the United States set a goal of what they call four working levels or 3.6 working levels over a period of time, which indicates the margin of safety that they then sought. You were working in an atmosphere of under 3.6 or four. I don't want to go into the complicated definition of it. You might well be safe, although there was no assurance. If you were working above that, there was a considerable probability that you wouldn't be safe.

If I remember what Mr. Davis said to the committee the other day, Ontario is now down to a working level of six. Is that correct? I just want to point out to you that in 1968 and 1969 the United States already saw 3.6 as a target for Jan. 1, 1971. I'm going to introduce something even more startling than that from the views of probably one of the most knowledgeable people in Ontario, in a few minutes. What I'm simply putting to you, to put it in their lingo:

The degree of risk at the lower levels of cumulative exposure cannot be determined from currently available data. The data neither suggest nor exclude the existence of a threshold. It is prudent, however, to assume that some degree of risk exists at any level of exposure, even though possible effects may not now be evident at the lower levels of cumulative exposure.

The absence of evidence now is key because the nightmare of the cancer cases flowing from the sintering plant in Sudbury, in Inco, is the most dramatic, terrifying caution that anyone could have working in this general mining field. Alas, there are all kinds of cautions on the horizon which no one in the ministry seems to be paying any attention to.

All of these things emerged within the framework of the American experience. But within Ontario there was a continuing sense of something wrong on the part of the workers and the union from the outset, and the most damnable indifference on the part of the companies and the government from the outset. I just don't understand it. I understand sacrificing almost everything to the almighty dollar, that's the way this economic system works. But I would have thought there might be limits. Clearly, even in terms of human health and human life, there were not limits imposed on the uranium industry,

because no one felt a sense of responsibility for it.

In this province, Mr. Chairman, if I understand it, until 1969 or 1970, the focus tended to be on silicosis: the depositing of silica dust in the lungs to an extent which causes severe respiratory damage, disabling and immobilizing men, resulting in silicosis, which ultimately removes them from the work force and reduces life expectancy. That particular anxiety about silicosis happened from the beginning. Let me try to chronicle it for you in 16 ways.

1. In 1958 and 1959 there were wildcats at Elliot Lake around the question of health and safety, the question of dust.

2. From 1960 to 1964 there were 10 rather celebrated cases in Elliot Lake which went before the Workmen's Compensation Board as the Steelworkers union attempted to prove that the disabilities apparently came from the dust in the mine—the absence of ventilation, the fumes, the smoke, however else one describes it—the air conditions in the mine. The appearance of the disability was asthmatic. It was called, of course, in those early days a bronchial condition, emphysema. Anything other than silicosis. The claims couldn't be established. You were always found to have been working earlier in Germany or in Kirkland Lake, but the Elliot Lake mines were never responsible. But, as I understand it from men who were working there after 1957, those cases between 1960 and 1964 in Elliot Lake dramatized the growing silicosis worry.

3. In 1963 the union local at Denison specifically asked the ministry to intervene over dust levels. Nothing happened. In 1965 the Steelworkers local and the representative, feeling completely flummoxed in their relationships with the companies and not knowing where to go, wrote three letters, copies of which I dredged out of the files. They are kind of interesting because they are so revealing.

The recording secretary of the local, a Gordon Huston, on June 11, 1965, wrote to the medical officer of health in Sudbury because he didn't know where to go, or who to turn to, because no one would respond to the interest. He said:

There have been several incidents brought to my attention that involve your department in regard to sanitation at Denison Mines, Elliot Lake, Ont. If you would be so kind as to notify me as to when you will be next in this area I would like to discuss this matter with you.

Then he wrote to Mr. Rowntree, then Minister of Labour. How I remember it. On July 15, 1965. It is nice to have been in this House so long. These aren't nostalgic reveries. These are human beings, of a kind.

Dear Sir:

I am having a little trouble locating anyone in a responsible position enough to act in an investigation of safety and health conditions at Denison Mines Ltd. The Department of Health has referred you to me, and I would appreciate it if you would help me in this matter. Anxiously awaiting your earliest reply, I remain,

Yours truly,

Gordon Huston.

Mr. Martel: Davis said there were no complaints from the union all during those years.

Mr. Lewis: Well, if Mr. Davis said that then he will be hard-pressed to explain the letter from C. Grant Gibson, P.Eng, director of safety and technical services for the Department of Labour, who wrote, with copies to Mr. Smith and Mr. Currie of the mines branch:

Dear Mr. Huston:

Yesterday I received from the minister's office, July 22, 1965, a copy of your letter of July 15 addressed to the Minister of Labour in which you stated that you were having "trouble locating anyone in a responsible position enough to act in an investigation of safety and health conditions at Denison Mines Ltd." and that you had been referred to the minister for help by the Department of Health. Confirming the information which I gave you last evening during my telephone call to you, the Department of Mines of Ontario, by virtue of the Mining Act, statutes 1960, chapter 241, and amendments thereto, has jurisdiction over all matters concerning safety and health in a mine as defined in that Act.

The four or five specific conditions which you mentioned to me do, in my opinion, fall within the classification of being safety or health matters. Your nearest representative of the Department of Mines is Mr. H. N. Currie, District Engineer of Mines, Lake Theatre building, Elliot Lake, whose office telephone number is—

I am sending a copy of this letter to the chief engineer of mines, Mr. R. L. Smith, whose office is at the east block, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, and whose telephone number is—, and to Mr. Currie so they will know that you will likely be

contacting Mr. Currie within the next day or so.

As I understand it, there was simply no response to the complaints that were then filed with Mr. Currie and Mr. Smith from the union. The union made a mistake in these years, and I told them that when I met with them. They didn't put very much on paper. They were naive enough to believe that when you phoned an inspector, as they phoned Mr. Weeks, with whom I will deal momentarily, and ask him to investigate a serious safety or health condition, you expect response. And time and again nothing happens. Time and again the union didn't understand that they should be putting it all on paper.

That leads me to the fifth point I want to make.

5. Up until 1965 there was a doctor in the Elliot Lake community whose name was Dr. Anastoshin and he told men on the basis of their x-rays to get out of Elliot Lake. He told them that continually. After 1965 there was no such doctor in the Elliott Lake community. Nobody was telling the men to leave the mines until very recently.

6. Throughout the whole period of the late Sixties and early Seventies there was a pattern developing at the Workmen's Compensation Board which should have struck terror into the hearts of those dealing in the uranium industry, whether in the position of management or the position of the ministry, and that was the pattern of silicosis cases sufficiently critical that they were 25 per cent, or better, disability and were recognized as compensable.

Let me try to make it clear to the committee that when you say 25 per cent disability, you mean total disability for the worker. The percentage disability of silicosis, as such, can be distinctly higher than that. Now, I just again took from the files Aug. 8, 1967, a letter from the claims department, Hutchison, the assistant chest claims supervisor, dealing with a Mr. H.B.

Mr. B. was examined by the advisory committee on Aug. 8, 1967, and they informed us that Mr. B. was disabled due to the industrial chest disease, silicosis. He was not totally disabled, but partially disabled 25 per cent.

April 22, 1969, a Mr. R.M. [again from Hutchison]. The report of the advisory committee on occupational chest diseases has been received. That committee has diagnosed your case as silicosis.

Feb. 10, 1971 [again from Hutchison], a Mr. H.D.

I've discussed Mr. D.'s claim with our medical consultant on industrial chest conditions. It is the agreed opinion of the chief of chest services and the advisory committee on occupational chest diseases that Mr. D. is disabled due to the industrial chest condition, silicosis, and that the degree of disability is 25 per cent.

I've chosen three in over a period of four or five years. Let me tell you that case after case is recorded from 1967 to 1971 and 1972 indicating a growing disability on the basis of silicosis, and nothing was done. Absolutely nothing was done. I think that's kind of important to recognize—that we commit ourselves to uranium production of massive proportions; we export it internationally; we enter into contracts with Japan and with Spain and God knows who else.

Mr. Reid: India.

Mr. Lewis: And India. First rate—exactly, India. And when the men involved are suffering consistent silicosis and it is all a matter of the public record, the Ministry of Natural Resources or mines can't find the time to do anything about it. And the companies say not a word.

Mr. Martel: Old Smith; it was understandable.

Mr. Lewis: 7. The Ontario Federation of Labour held a major conference in 1967 on the questions of occupational and industrial health dealing with silicosis particularly. There was a classic confrontation that the workers remember, between Smith of the Department of Mines and Jack Rudwin, over the question of silicosis and what could be done in the mines to protect the workers. Not a thing flowed from that conference by way of activity on the part of the ministry.

8. Throughout all these years chest x-rays were being taken of the workers. Now these chest x-rays had to be turning up degrees of pre-silicosis or silicotic conditions. They had to be. When you changed the rules at the beginning of 1974, so that cases could be compensated at a level less than 25 per cent, a very large number of cases became eligible, and clearly people with silicotic conditions were having their chests x-rayed and nothing occurred.

No doctor in the community said anything to them. No Workmen's Compensation doctor

said anything to them. And the company said nothing to them.

The company claims on occasion that it didn't see the x-rays. Well, you'll never persuade the men at Elliot Lake—for one reason, and I throw it in just because it's caused a lot of questions in the minds of the men: The personnel manager at Denison is Clem Banks; the man who runs the chest x-ray station is Richard Banks, his son.

It's very hard for the men at Denison to believe that daddy doesn't know what son is doing. It's very hard for me to believe, having a related relationship, and I must say that through the years the workers always felt that the mines knew their condition but that no one would level with them. As a matter of fact, I find it absolutely astounding that you can take chest x-rays which would necessarily show up some kind of lung disability—

Mr. Martel: A cloud.

Mr. Lewis: —a cloud on the lung, particles on the lung, as they call it, and no one says anything to the worker. Maybe the medical people, or the technicians, or whoever, live with their consciences. I'm glad I don't have to.

As a matter of fact, among the workers with whom I met on Tuesday night—there were two of 18 years' experience, two of 17 years, one of 13, one of 11, one of nine, two of eight, one of five, one of 4½ years' experience—not a single one of them could think of an instance over the entire period of time when Denison Mines or Rio Algom had ever approached a single worker to suggest that he should work on the surface rather than underground. Not once.

Mr. Martel: Their experience would go to waste.

Mr. Lewis: 9. There have been conferences regularly held in Elliot Lake dealing with matters of dust, fumes and gas, all covered by the handbook of requirements governing the operation of mines in this province. Radiation is not in this handbook, incredibly enough, unless it has been more recently amended. Radiation is not in this handbook but the other factors are. Conferences were held constantly in Elliot Lake, with people from the Department of Mines, now the Ministry of Natural Resources, there, and absolutely nothing occurred. When I spoke to the international representatives they recall phoning the mines inspectors on a weekly basis, even a daily basis, constantly complaining about dust and ventilation, and absolutely nothing was done about it.

Then in May of 1972—this carrying forward through the late 1960s, the early 1970s—a number of doctors of considerable capacity, the most important or the most noted in this field being Dr. Mastromatteo, wrote a paper which they presented at the annual American Industrial Conference in San Francisco called, "An Unusual Pneumoconiosis in the Ontario Uranium Mining Industry." Now I ask you to remember the date of that document, May 1972. In that document, on page 6, there is the following quote:

The problem, therefore, is one of a pneumoconiosis among persons exposed underground or, in at least one case, on surface, to dust from a high silica uranium ore body. The radiological changes have frequently come on with explosive suddenness. [The member for Oshawa (Mr. McIlveen) would understand that better than I do.] and have often involved all lung fields simultaneously. The length of exposure and elapsed time from first exposure to full-blown radiological nodulation has in some cases been quite short. This has caused the condition to occur in young men.

The reference to young men was to point out the changing conditions of May, 1972, when the patterns of the previous decade were beginning to alter. What gave Dr. Mastromatteo some heart at the time was that most of the miners—indeed, in this study, all of them who were currently suffering silicotic disability—had been working in the mines pre-1960, and it could therefore be alleged, or put, that the pre-1960 conditions dictated the present situation.

All right. That was in May of 1972. At the same time, there was a paper submitted by Dr. Stewart. What is Dr. Stewart's first name?

Mr. Ferrier: Charlie.

Mr. Lewis: Dr. Charles Stewart is a fascinating figure in all of this. I want to put a very, very important piece of work of his on the record, in a complimentary way in a moment.

Dr. Stewart flits in and out of the shadows of Elliot Lake right up to the present, where I gather that he is now the senior-most person at the Workmen's Compensation Board in lung and chest conditions, who has had a lot of experience with Elliot Lake. Let me say, as part of his credentials, that Dr. Stewart is no novice in the field, and he knows the area. He was a reeve of Elliot Lake. He was the Conservative provincial candidate in 1967. I point that out to attest

to his roots in the community. He worked as an assistant medical practitioner to the doctor in Elliot Lake who was considered to be the doctor for Denison Mines, the company doctor. He moved back and forth from the Workmen's Compensation Board over the last few years dealing with cases in Elliot Lake.

Up until relatively latterly, Dr. Stewart was prepared to document the problems without being very exercised about them. And so, at the same time as the Mastromatteo study, Dr. Stewart delivered a paper to the Algoma branch of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, "Radiation and Dust, Elliot Lake, the First 15 Years." This is absolutely fascinating when I read you the next document, in which he quoted other authorities to point out the working levels and working level maximums that I referred to earlier, which would be permissible in a uranium mine. And he quotes, with some authority, Dr. Stewart of the Atomic Energy of Canada—another Dr. Stewart, who himself delivered a paper on the subject and indicated certain maxima that were acceptable. Now, listen to what our Dr. Stewart, our Ontario Dr. Stewart of the Workmen's Compensation Board, says:

However, this maximum does not involve the usual safety factor which is always included in any suggested radiological permissible dose.

He suggests that five would be a reasonable safety factor in the light of present knowledge. Instead of 600 working levels then, 120 working levels is the lifetime goal, and this would mean reducing the level underground to 0.3 working levels. We're now at six. The United States is at 3.6. The man most informed from the Workmen's Compensation Board suggests a level of 0.3. Now, we're very far from it. Some mines have reached it. Most of them work between .24 and 3.6, as the way of calculating what is safe.

But I just want to point out to you that as a Ministry of Natural Resources and a Health ministry, we are allowing people to continue to work in a situation which the authorities generally agree is unsafe.

Well, that was in April-May of 1972. Then I found a document. I don't know where it came from; I don't know to whom it was directed. I think it was an internal board document. It is March, 1973, it is again entitled, "Uranium Mines, the Past 15 Years." But is there a change in tune!

I want to put this very carefully on the

record, and show to you what happened in the one year. Dr. Stewart went over the past. He pointed out that the rock in Elliot Lake has a silica content of 70 per cent free silica, as distinct from Porcupine and Sudbury camps where it's only 30 per cent—or four to eight per cent respectively, the measure of the danger. He then pointed out how mining proceeded in the early days, with extraordinary urgency.

In order to successfully meet their commitments, mines paid high wages and particularly high bonus rates. Veteran miners from across Canada and overseas flocked to Elliot Lake. In retrospect it is clear that if the ventilation measures and dust control programmes were considered adequate at the commencement of mining, the exigencies of the situation inevitably prevented an orderly, progressive implementation of these measures. With round-the-clock mining, short cuts, huge bonus incentive and the threat of contract cancellation, dust control would, of necessity, assume secondary importance.

Mr. Martel: Who was in charge of Rio Algom of the day?

Mr. Lewis: Who was in charge of Rio Algom?

Mr. Martel: Yes, of the day.

Mr. Lewis: I don't know—then he describes the first phase of dust effects and how many cases were documented. And for the first time, and quite distinct from what he put a year earlier, he talks about the second phase, and this is what he says of it:

In the late Sixties and particularly between 1970 and the end of 1972, a new pattern began to emerge. Dust defects were now appearing in miners with little or no previous mining reference before Elliot Lake. Once again, with one or two exceptions, all started mining in Elliot Lake before 1960-1961. This new pattern has become particularly evident in the last 18 months. The percentage of men in the 30 to 49-year age group is identical in Denison and Rio Algom, 57 per cent with silicosis. Sixteen of the total of 75 are presently working on surface not exposed to dust.

For the first time he documented the cases of silicosis in Rio Algom and in Denison available to him then, more than a year ago now, in what he calls phase 2. There were 75 cases. He divides it by underground, by surface and by the total. Anyway there were 33 at Rio Algom and 42 at Denison Mines.

Before I go on anywhere else, let me read you his conclusions from page 3.

I believe a situation has developed which is unique in the history of Ontario mining and which suggests a unique approach in its solution. 1. Few mines in Ontario today will hire an Elliot Lake miner.

I would like to have the mine name that will hire an Elliot Lake miner, because I have spoken to the men who have tried to get jobs at Inco, Falconbridge and God knows where else—I will tell you about one of them shortly—when Denison threatened to close down or even recently during the protest. No one will touch an Elliot Lake miner. If you are in mining and you have been in Elliot Lake that is where you spend your days or you are out.

To continue quoting Dr. Stewart:

2. Few of these men have any skills other than mining. Many of them have rudimentary education and many are not competitive in the English language.

3. Most are relatively young, own their houses, have young families and have become relatively immobile.

4. Most must eventually leave dust exposure before they become frankly silicotic.

What he means by "frankly silicotic" is, I think, total disability as distinct from partial disability.

Most—nearly all—have no disability at present and therefore cannot obtain compensation under existing regulations.

What that meant at that time was that most of the miners had not yet been assessed at 25 per cent disability, so they weren't receiving compensation. Only the 75 were receiving compensation.

6. A few might obtain a minimal partial disablement, completely inadequate in itself—

an interesting commentary from the medical officer at the board on the partial disablements we are now giving:

—and thus avail themselves of the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board rehabilitation services and retraining.

7. All of these men stuck it through the lean years in Elliot Lake and contributed to the survival of the town. In a real sense they, no one else, have paid the price for the urgent commitments assumed by the federal and provincial governments in the 1950s.

They have paid the price. That is from your medical officer who is more knowledgeable in this field than any other person. Maybe that isn't true. There may be doctors in Sudbury who have dealt with the lung conditions and removed the lungs, and dealt with the cancer cases and the silicosis cases. Certainly Dr. Stewart has seen more x-rays than most.

Mr. Chairman, what then must be said is the following. I have in front of me, compiled by the union at Elliot Lake, a list of workers whose claims have just recently been decided or are in the process of application. I have 81 names on this list. Two of them are now deceased. If there were 75 documented by Dr. Stewart in March, 1973 and there are some 81 cases in process or recently resolved, even giving some overlap, I want it to be accepted or at least recognized by the committee that we are verging on or exceeding 10 per cent of the work force that is pre-silicotic or silicotic. But what is most important is that the cases that are now emerging are post-1960. They are no longer pre-1960. We are now reaping the neglect of the 1960's on the part of the ministry and the mining companies for the conditions in those mines, even when the men knew and the mines and the ministry knew that it was as dangerous as hell. And absolutely nothing was being done about it.

The minister can say forever that he has confidence in his inspection staff. He can say forever that there were alterations made. The only alteration which the men feel was made is the increased ventilation; that is, an increased flow of air through the same circuit causing more dust to be circulated again and again through the same area of the mine, causing in the men's minds greater exposure hazards than was the case before. It's not a matter of how much air you pump through. It's how much you take out and how many ventilation systems you have.

When you are in a mine like Denison where effectively you have one ventilation system with the same contaminated air re-pumped through from the stopes to the headings right through the entire underground area, you are in real trouble. To have that continually permitted through the 1960s and into the 1970s says something about the mine owners. It says even more about the ministry.

In April of this year, because Elliot Lake is a small community and everybody knows everybody else, the workers knew that one of their colleagues was in the Princess Margaret Hospital. They knew there are a couple of shift bosses who have lung cancer. They

knew of a couple of cases, that I want to put on the record in a few moments, of local friends and associates. The community is necessarily insular. It's self-contained. Everybody knows what is happening to everybody else. Everybody knows that the discovery of silicotic conditions had been increasing steadily. Everybody knows that the ministry wouldn't raise a finger.

In October of 1972 Paul Falkowski of the United Steelworkers wrote to the minister, Mr. Bernier, and said he wanted to find out who was responsible for silicosis. Who was responsible? How was it that they were being told the federal government was responsible?

Mr. Bernier wrote him back a very straightforward letter and said quite clearly that "you are correct in believing that the mines engineering branch of this ministry are involved in enforcing legislation for the protection of workers in the industry."

Absolutely unequivocal from the ministry. Well, where was the protection? Where were the men to turn? Complaint after complaint, case after case, document after document, study after study, and nothing changes.

In November, 1973, a number of miners met with the minister and the then Minister of Health (Mr. Potter) to set out their complaints. Finally, there would be some health tests done, they said. Finally, there would be some air quality tests done, they said. The air quality tests aren't starting until May 27, for reasons which Mr. Jewett outlined to the committee a few days ago—reasons which I find both unacceptable and almost implausible.

The health tests have begun. To be fair to the Ministry of Health, for the first time, the workers, although they are very suspicious, have a feeling that maybe someone cares. The sputum tests won't come until the summer or fall, and what they will turn up we don't know. But I want to come to that in my conclusion.

The whole community is frantic with worry about it. The workers went out on a wildcat. They don't deny it. It was an illegal wildcat strike. Everybody likes to say that it was over the cost of living index—

Mr. Martel: Especially the ministry.

Mr. Lewis: —which had been awarded to Rio Algom and not awarded to Denison, so Denison went out. I don't believe that. I have no doubt that the cost of living was a catalyst. I have no doubt in my mind that the concerns they had about safety were central.

They went out. They had their protest. And they held a remarkable meeting which

my colleague from Sudbury East, Elie Martel, attended and reported on to the committee; a meeting which you couldn't sit through and listen to without recognizing—and I want to say this in no uncertain terms—that the mines investigation branch, the mines safety branch—what do they call it?—the mines engineering branch of this ministry, is guilty of criminal negligence. I don't know how else to put it. I just don't know how else to phrase it.

I sat until 2 o'clock this morning listening to a tape of that meeting, to every word that was spoken. Miner after miner, standing in his place, told what went on as thoughtfully, as plausibly, and as convincingly as possible. There wasn't any histrionics. There wasn't any particular emotion at the meeting. As a matter of fact there was a lot of good humour at the meeting. Miner after miner documented how, through the years, they had attempted to get changes made. They told how nobody would be of use to them, how the number of complaints accelerated, and how they dealt with them.

Mr. Davis was there and heard them all, and I cannot believe that an inspector of mines safety could sit through a meeting like that and emerge with a feeling that all was well in the world, because there is something profoundly rotten in the state of mine supervision and safety in Elliot Lake. And it lies directly with the Ministry of Natural Resources and, eventually, necessarily, with the minister himself, and not with the civil service, I suppose. Just to make those distinctions is something I find very difficult to do, when you don't even have the name of the mines inspector posted two years after it has become a matter of law that his name should be available to the workers.

I want to mention—I took down verbatim and I am not very good at it—but I just want to tell you of some of the things that were said specifically at that meeting. I want to give you a couple of direct quotes so that the full sense of it is on the record. They had complaints from underground employees, some 28 of them from Denison Mines Ltd.

"No. 9:" just to give you the flavour of it, "26 paddle bad ventilation, explanation will be given."

This is what the worker said, the worker reporting, to applause:

We are not getting fresh air. We are just working in our same smoke all the time. We work eight hours a day in this environment. We get pains in the chest. Our eyes and noses burn. There is one fan taking the ventilation into the area. The

smoke is not getting out and it just goes round and round. There is a roof bolter, a scoop tram and two or three units as well. We can't breathe.

No. 11: 309-six-panel roadway from two-shaft to 24 panel. Too much dust. The worst time for us is on Monday morning. We go in to pick up our machines. We have a beat going up with 25 to 30 men in a unamod going up to the working area. Behind that you have the scoop tram, NTT, STF, GDT. Everybody is moving up at the same time. We are in our own smoke all the time. We choke and gag before we even get up to our headings to work.

No. 17: 9671 GDT travelling in our own smoke. Quote from the worker: "Just ain't enough ventilation in those headings."

Objection 22: D6 operators complain of too much smoke. As far as we are concerned this machine should not be in the headings along with the other machinery, because it creates enough smoke for five machines.

Complaint 23: Men operating roof bolters complain of too much smoke. Quote: We work in one heading—the scoop tram, two large trucks, a D6 in there and another scoop cleaning the face—and the poor fellow right down at the end trying to stick rock bolts in the roof is choking and gagging to death down there. Too many pieces of machinery at one time.

So it went, quote after quote. Some very funny stories were told, admittedly, which were more poignant or pathetic, I suppose, than they were funny.

There is one fellow who works at the crusher absolutely surrounded by dust. One dust gatherer takes about 30 per cent of it out. They are going to build another dust collector. He asked for some relief in the meantime. His foreman told him, "You have to work in that dust, because if we let the dust go further down the chute the five men at the bottom will be affected."

"It is better," said the foreman, "for one man to die rather than five." I presume he said it in a light-hearted vein.

Those are the words quoted by the worker.

Finally, they agreed to put a fan above him to blow air in, but they needed to have a heater, because the air would be cold, and they needed a noise depressant, because it was so noisy. They finally got the fan in six months later. The noise is so high that he can't hear the working of his machine, and the air is so cold that he is freezing to death.

He has to go to the engineering department of Denison Mines and tell them that it was better working in the dust than working in the atmosphere, which was supposedly saving him.

The mill employees have regularly asked for portions of the mill to be closed off because of the circulation of dust. It has been discussed every year for five years; nothing has happened. They complained about fire extinguishers, about chemical toilets, about tires. One worker said:

With all the smoke you have got underground, I can't see why a company should be allowed to get the men to work 10 days straight and four off.

There was massive applause.

They can't get industrial vacuum cleaners for the garage because of cost factors apparently. One man got up and said:

We are getting a little bit away from the issue. The issue is my health, and the air that I am breathing underground. The diesel fumes and the smoke—it is really terrible let me tell you. And something has got to be done about this ventilation. There is too much diesel equipment down there for the air allowed; and I am one of the group who is breathing that eight hours a day. I am working hard and I am breathing that stuff—and that is no good, mister. And I come home every night and fall asleep on my wife. She says: "Why, why?" Ask anyone else here why?

And again the members registered their feeling in that meeting, some 400 of them.

Now, it is impossible to go through the complaints and to hear the workers set them out without recognizing that mining inspection in Elliot Lake is a farce. There is no mining inspection worthy of the name in Elliot Lake. My colleague from Sudbury East elicited from the minister that there were 28 inspections, and he asked how many charges had been laid against Denison? How many charges had been laid against Rio Algom? I would be interested to know how many charges. I will tell you why I'd be interested to know—

Mr. Chairman: We will break now for the vote.

Mr. Lewis: All right, I will break in a moment. Let me read to you from the statute, from the regulations, section 213, subsection (1), ventilation and dust controls, mines:

The ventilation in every mine shall be such that the air in all of its workings which

are in use, shall be free from dangerous amounts of noxious impurities, and shall contain sufficient oxygen to obviate danger to the health of anyone employed in the mine.

Well, Denison and Rio Algom—because I have a list from the workers of 64 complaints there—they violate that clause every working day and not a bloody thing is done about it. And I want to know what the mines inspectors are doing. One more quote and I will break, Mr. Chairman. This is section 572, subsection (1):

No person shall be in an area where he might be exposed to injury from a noxious gas, liquid, fume or dust or due to lack of oxygen, unless he is suitably protected against the particular type of hazard.

These men are not suitably protected. Everyone understands that; but the hazards occur. Day in and day out, the Act is violated. Now, if it was like other Acts, you know, if it was like other industrial safety Acts that govern small manufacturing industries where you are dealing with toilet problems, discomfort for the workers, some inconvenience, it would be all right.

But something that the minister and the ministry have to understand is that you people are playing with human life in Elliot Lake. The silicosis cases and the cancer cases demonstrate that.

It is beyond redemption for you to continue to allow these inadequate levels of dust, fumes and gas to continue. And I repeat: It amounts to criminal negligence. I will have more to say after the vote.

Mr. Chairman: We will break now for the vote. Should we come back after or should we adjourn until—

Mr. Lewis: Well, I would appreciate coming back and cleaning this up before dinner.

Mr. Chairman: All right. If the vote goes right ahead we will come right back.

The committee recessed at 5:05 o'clock, p.m., for a vote in the House and reconvened at 5:34.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, I want to raise a number of questions which flow from that chronology about solutions and about individuals and about peculiarities which frankly, I don't understand. I thought the best context in which to do it was some representative cases, some representative human predicaments

in Elliot Lake, since forever talking statistically doesn't nearly focus the situation.

The member for Nickel Belt, Linda Thomas and I yesterday met one young man. I am not going to use names at the moment; Mr. T is what I will call him since his last name begins with a T. All of these people would be easily identifiable in the community, of course; they are not as identifiable in the committee.

I saw him yesterday morning as he came off shift, just out of curiosity. He came off shift carrying this extraordinary apparatus which Mr. Jewett will know well and some others will know well; I didn't know it well. He's a scoop-tram operator, no less; it's a vehicle, a juggernaut, which causes palpitations of various kinds in both the member for Nickel Belt and me. Now, this is what is worn by the scoop-tram operators in Denison Mines to protect them from the dust and radiation. It says outside of it that it has a filter for radio nuclides and dust, fumes and mist. It gives no protection against gases, vapours or oxygen deficiency. Dr. Mastro-matteo has argued consistently, as one of the men most informed in the field, that no man should be required to wear a mask of this kind for more than two hours.

You speak to the men who wear these kinds of masks, who drive these incredible scoop-trams and other similar pieces of equipment, and they have very great difficulty breathing toward the end of shift. This had been worn for eight hours and he took the filter out of one side of it for me and pointed out that this is what accumulates in one eight-hour period. My lily-white hands are appropriate evidence to the committee and it's worth noting that this is what is going into the lungs; this is what is being accumulated on the way into the lungs. Some of it can doubtless be discharged.

I am not a medical person but I can't believe that that kind of concentration of carbon and other gases is good for anyone. What young Mr. T told me, with some bitterness, was that until the protest, there was no way that Denison Mines would allow them to change their filters more than once a week. After the protest, suddenly the filters are available once or twice a day if needed. He points out that he has been working underground for eight years; six years in a very highly radioactive area which the company itself panicked about a little; the last two years on a scoop-tram in the heart of the mine. He has been using the filters recently only once a week and for the first time they changed their policy. It was said bitterly be-

cause this young, 30-year-old chap, with a wife and a 13-year-old daughter, was told by Dr. Stewart, not very long ago—about a year ago—that he had to get up out of the underground. He should no longer be working underground.

During the period some years ago when Denison was about to close down—or everybody thought it was about to close down—this young man went to the Granduc Mines, the Kaiser mine, the Lynn Lake mine and Sherritt Gordon Mines, looking for alternative employment and they all said to him, "No." That is the reason for Dr. Stewart's categorical assertion that other mines will not employ uranium miners.

Manpower said they would move him all right; they would find him a job somewhere but a new house would cost him about \$25,000 and he would have to assume his own travelling costs for a good part of the way. They didn't know what he would do with his present home and the settled family in the community.

He described his condition this way to me:

My arms went dead; pains in the chest and the side, arms. I wrote the Workmen's Compensation Board. They gave me no reason to leave the underground. I saw Dr. Stewart later and he said, "If you think anything of your health, leave the mining industry."

That was a year ago. He asks, rather feelingly, what does he do? Where does he go?

He is a heavy equipment operator. He has mastered every piece of machinery there is. He can drive a scoop-tram in any mine or anything even bigger but he knows he has to get out from the underground. Denison will not provide him with a job on the surface. They gave him a job on the surface for three weeks after his own doctor talked to mine officials and then they sent him back down into the mine. Dr. Stewart was the first doctor who ever levelled with him.

In the years that he was taking x-rays and dealing with doctors in the community he could never get any doctor to level with him. He said to me, "You can't get a doctor honest enough. Just because I'm 30 years old, I'm not going to jump because I'm told. What are you going to do, wait until I'm crippled? Dr. Stewart told the union that we could work for 10 to 15 years with silicosis." Well, he doesn't have silicosis. "With the diesel fumes on top of everything else down there, I come home and I'm spitting black steadily, as black as this telephone.

"I'd leave tomorrow morning if I could find a job, but move again, pull my daughter out of school? Where do I go from here? I don't need retraining, I'm a heavy equipment operator. I can drive anything."

Of course he is driving himself over the brink. Presumably, being a reasonably intelligent person, he'll throw his economic life out of the window in order to rescue his physical life. He'll try to find some kind of alternative. He's a member of the silicosis committee. He says that Denison has been getting worse rather than better because of the way in which the mine is constructed, with all the heavy machinery concentrated in one place. It's a beautiful mine to work, from a company's point of view. It's a very difficult mine to work from the workers' point of view.

He talks about the smoke in his eyes. He talks about the grit in his teeth. He talks about working for bonuses and now knows that he has some silicosis content in his veins and shouldn't have been working overtime for bonuses. He says:

"When I worked for Noranda I went out to 1 a.m. I got up at 5 a.m. You don't do that here. You are too tired to go out. You spend two days in the weekend spitting the black stuff out. My wife says to me, 'You want to leave? Leave.' So you work your life out and you die of cancer. I don't mind dying for my country, but not for a Japanese contract. Let them change the mine and bring in safety."

A very intense, literate young man. The strain on his family is obvious, the dilemma he faces is obvious. He talks feelingly about his fellow workers. He knows there's something wrong with him but to this day he can't get it sorted out. He knows that he might be able to get a partial pension, but that's of little use to him. So he's faced with the dilemma which so many of them have: Where the devil do they go and what the devil do they do?

I want to ask a question about something which I just don't understand. All of these people who are diagnosed as pre-silicotics, or silicotics, and are on partial disability from the Workmen's Compensation Board are back working underground. I want somebody to explain that to me. I want to understand how it is possible in Ontario in 1974, that a man can have a silicotic condition sufficient to be eligible for a partial disability pension and then be returned to the area of exposure. That's absolutely beyond me. I don't understand it. It strikes me again as so mean and base in human terms that it's intolerable.

Obviously one of the problems is that there aren't any surface jobs available for these people. They would take a cut in pay if they went to the surface, which their marginal disability pension won't begin to compensate for. One of the problems is that they don't know anything else. But you don't have to be a medical genius to know that silicosis is a terribly damaging lung disease, that the longer you stay in the dust conditions the more the hazard mounts; that if 100 people have been found to have partial disability you don't return them to the exposure areas. It's nuts.

That's not mining, that's medical mayhem. That's what it is, and you put an end to it. I don't know how the ministry or the Workmen's Compensation Board, or the Ministry of Health allows it to go on. I'm quite happy to hear every rationalization in the world. It's going to take a lot to persuade me that a man should be returned to the exposure area. As a matter of fact, obviously he shouldn't.

I have in front of me a list of 30 men whose private physicians have told them they should be working on the surface. They've not yet been put on a partial disability silicotic pension, but their own physicians think they should be working on the surface. There's nothing for them on the surface. There's absolutely nothing for them anywhere.

So much for Gary T, and the questions that he raises. I was really taken with this man. If these meetings go forward on Wednesdays, Mr. Minister, I would appreciate it if the committee, in good faith, would consider inviting three or four of the workers with some experience in the mine to speak to this committee. You will be as taken as I was by the intensity of the honesty of it all, the way in which they describe their condition and the condition of their fellow workers.

Here's a man who's worked only eight years. He joined in 1966. He's one of the people who Mastromatteo described as "the explosion in the incidence of evidence of lung disability." He's one of the people who caused Dr. Stewart to write about phase two, the whole change that has occurred in the last 2½ years.

Then I went with this young man to see a miner of Portuguese extraction, Mr. B. He has been working underground all the time since 1960. He has had a chest x-ray regularly. Nothing showed up. In 1971 he started to have bad pains, he is spitting blood and his chest hurts. He had to ask for the results of his chest x-ray analysis in December, 1971, because no one in all the time preceding it

would tell him whether anything was showing up on his x-ray. He has three children, ages nine, eight and seven. He has a very sparse little home of which he's very proud. We sat in the living room, he and his wife and myself, and the other young man I've described.

When they finally took him seriously and did a diagnosis, which he had to fight for—the most dramatic of that is the next case history I want to introduce—they found a very serious silicotic condition which they registered at 35 per cent. So he said, in his struggling English, "They promised me all kinds of things at surface. I end up shovelling snow. I worked so long for Denison. You have no job for me. You think I'm ready for the scrap room."

He gets \$197 a month from the Workmen's Compensation Board and \$100 a month welfare. He was making \$12,000 a year up to the point of the end of his work in 1972. "What I gonna do except waiting?" he said. "My kids in big depression. I cannot send them to show. I cannot send them to sports. I cannot send them anywhere."

You wonder to yourself, as this man's disability was fashioned by a combination of the mine and the government—there's no escaping it—what we have done has now to be somehow corrected. I don't know how. I have some suggestions to make. Let me just tell you what went on in the background of this man to show you the way these people struggle. It is with the Workmen's Compensation Board, but it's illustrative. On Feb. 14, 1972, a letter, which this gentleman allowed me to read, was sent by Dr. Stewart. It said:

Dear Mr. B.:

I am writing you to advise that your chest x-ray is showing signs of dust effects, that is, very early silicosis. I cannot say for sure, but I feel there is a good chance you will have silicosis if you continue to work underground in dust. Since you're only 36 years old, you might give some thought to getting out of dust and working in another part of the mine. I would advise you to do this.

You must understand that this is entirely up to you, that we have no authority to take you out of underground work, nor do we advise Denison Mines of your x-ray. You have the perfect right to continue work underground as long as you want, and I leave it up to you to decide whether or not you wish to contact the mine and discuss the possibility of a job on surface.

I am sure that your breathing is quite normal, since we know that dust effects as shown in your chest x-ray rarely, if ever, give any problems to breathing or to your ability to do hard work. But because of your age, I would seriously give thought to leaving dust.

If you wish to discuss this with your family doctor, by all means advise me, and I will talk to him.

Well, Mr. Agostini, the claims officer of the board, wrote to Mr. B on July 12, 1972:

The report submitted in connection with your claim has been carefully reviewed and as it has not been shown that you are suffering from the industrial chest condition, silicosis, or any other compensable condition, your claim may not be allowed.

Yours very truly,

Mr. B doesn't understand. Dr. Stewart tells him to get out of the underground. The Workmen's Compensation Board says there is nothing wrong. Mr. B is spitting up blood. He can't understand his x-rays. Nobody will tell him what is in his x-rays. He feels totally frustrated. Then Mr. B applies for some weekly indemnity from Sun Life and Denison Mines writes back that he is not eligible. Then Denison Mines writes him in November, 1972:

Dear Mr. B:

Your continued absence and your inability to perform any work available indicates that you will be unable to return to work within a reasonable time. For this reason we are removing you from payroll.

He started working with them in 1959. Now, there is corporate philanthropy for you. And not a penny goes to him from the company at this point, let it be said. And Dr. Stewart, who was right in this ambiguous period of his, which I now identify and I understand, when he didn't know how much to attribute to the mines or to the men, or to medical science, wrote a letter to the personnel director of Denison at this time as follows:

Mr. B telephoned me today and told me that the Sun Life company had rejected a weekly indemnity for him during the time he has been off recently. I think it should be on record that his absence from work had nothing to do with any condition or claim which has been filed with the Workmen's Compensation Board.

He was evaluated here in Toronto for the possibility of silicosis being present. This claim has been completely rejected.

And there is no radiological evidence of silicosis, although there are signs of dust effects.

Furthermore, his pulmonary function studies reveal no significant ventilatory disability. Apart from the dust effects, the chest x-ray was quite normal. Therefore, whatever his condition is now or in the past, it has nothing to do with any industrial chest disease.

Mr. B, who gets this letter—how, I don't know—is even more bewildered. The man is clearly a sick man. He can't work. He goes back to the job, and collapses after a few days. They won't let him work on the surface. He is forced underground. He owns his home. He doesn't know where else to work. He is 36 years of age.

In absolutely a frantic atmosphere he goes to the Burns Clinic medical centre in Petoski, Mich., and has a complete checkup by one of the specialists in the field, Richard H. Walkalit. On Dec. 12, 1972, the doctor submits the following:

It is my diagnosis that this young man has diffused, interstitial lung disease of uncertain origin, which is certainly compatible with silicosis. Early pneumoconiosis, probably silicosis according to history, with various abnormal respiratory functions.

And he uses phrases and words which are even more ominous. Then in May of 1973 there comes from the board a letter saying:

Your claim for an industrial chest condition, namely silicosis, has been allowed and you are awarded a pension of \$197 a month for permanent partial disability.

Mr. Haggerty: If he didn't accept, he would be on welfare.

Mr. Lewis: It is both pathetic and it is incredible the way these people have had to fight to give evidence of their condition with the board, with the Ministry of Natural Resources, with the mining company. And everywhere they are rebuffed and no one will take silicosis seriously in Elliot Lake. It is all being treated lightly. Even to this date, even with the additional tests. And I think I can show or tell you why.

But, again, what I had on view when I visited that family was a family that had been destroyed by a chest condition directly attributable to the Elliot Lake mine; recognized as such, finally, by the Workmen's Compensation Board, and whose responsibility it is. It is their responsibility. And where were the mine owners? And where was the

ministry? And where were all these superlative mining inspectors to uphold the Act whose definition is absolutely explicit? And in the morning I met—do you want us to quit here, Mr. Chairman? I have two more cases I want to deal with and it will take me a little longer.

Mr. Chairman: You can go on for 10 minutes.

Mr. Lewis: All right, I'll start on it. I met with a man who is revered in Elliot Lake, much beloved in Elliott Lake. It is a Mr. F, and just to mention his situation is to give it away. He is a man who—what would he be, in his fifties?

An hon. member: Forty-seven.

Mr. Lewis: Forty-seven. He is married. He has two children, a girl of 15 and a boy of 10. He has lung cancer. He has had one lung removed. He has had a portion of his heart and areas leading to his heart removed. The other lung is not in good shape—the man is not in good shape. He is one of the most extraordinarily charming people it is possible to meet—in desperate physical condition obviously; fighting to stay alive as long as possible—as close to his family as you would ever want to see a human being, appreciative of the tensions for his kids, working with them doggedly day in and day out so there is an appreciation of what it all means. And this man is on a disability pension from the Workmen's Compensation Board who have recognized that the cancer flowed from the job at Rio Algom.

As a matter of fact I have the exact words of the judgement; I think I should probably put it on the record. It is the kind of wording which most of the members of the House are familiar with. I can't find it now. It is that wording that says, "arising out of and during the course of employment."

This man is some kind of a hero in Elliot Lake because single-handedly he has been waging a battle to persuade the company and the community of what it is that is happening. His case was recognized in 1969. It was the first definitively associated with the mine—although, of course, there were suspicions of many others. There has been one recent death due to lung cancer in the last very few weeks. There is someone from Elliot Lake now in the Princess Margaret Hospital with lung cancer. There are three or four other people in the area now with lung cancer. A good many of them simply won't seek the scientific evidence of work-related-

ness—because I suppose when you come to that point you are not interested in marginal compensation arrangements. You are rather more interested in family, and in life.

In 1969 and 1970 when this man went to the board he argued his own case. He argued it on the basis of preponderance of evidence. He studied all kinds of jurisdictions. He presented a paper to the board which was authoritative and impressive. He analysed smoking as a contributory factor; he analysed silica dust as a contributory factor; he analysed what had happened in Colorado, Utah and Arizona, in Germany and in South Africa, in the early gold mining days in Ontario. And he made the case so strongly—that the type of cancer cell which he had was of a type which must necessarily relate to lung cancer induced by radiation rather than by smoking or any other source—that the board found the argument irresistible and accepted it.

I don't know, and I don't pretend to know—and I want to make it very clear—that all the other cases that are now emerging are related. But I go back to what I said at the outset—the testimony in 1968 and 1969 before the subcommittees in the United States was quite conclusive. The material that we have on record is overpowering. The average number of cases of lung cancer per adult male in this province is 42.5 per 100,000 population. There are now half a dozen cases recent and present at Elliot Lake where the adult male population must surely be no more than 3,000 or 4,000, if that.

Mr. Martel: I think it would not be that many.

Mr. Lewis: The number of workers in the mine is 1,150; so presumably the adult male population is 2,000 or 3,000. I'll let you do the arithmetic of that yourselves. But if I were a Minister of Natural Resources, or a Minister of Health, or at the Workmen's Compensation Board, I wouldn't just be making medical tests, I would be launching as full and as public and as substantial an inquiry as I could—using this jurisdiction and the uranium mining in Elliot Lake as the touchstone—into the relationship between lung cancer and mining and the relationship of severe silicosis, or what they call radiological pneumoconiosis, and uranium mining. I wouldn't be piddling around from month to month talking abstract ways about the surveys that might be done, and I wouldn't be waiting for the numbers to mount, and I wouldn't be waiting for the cases to be documented, and I wouldn't be waiting for the Dr. Stewarts to change their

minds, and I wouldn't be waiting for all the other medical reports to be written. I'd be taking some kind of measures and I'd descend on Rio Algom and on Denison as though life itself were at stake, but life itself is at stake.

Now this fellow, Mr. F., put it very graphically. He has all of these documents on file—and he talked about the 100 Colorado miners who died. He said to me, and I quote his exact words:

They had 100 men dead in the States. Why repeat it here? Those 100 men died for us. Must we go through it again? What's the nation willing to pay for uranium?

He said it quietly, and he said it earnestly, and he said it painfully. And it would strike you as powerfully as it struck me, as it struck Floyd, as it struck Linda, because, you know, it's just not necessary. This is one area where there has been a real failure in terms of our governmental and human response and it must change. I just plead with this committee. It must change.

I don't need to give you the medical history of Mr. F. He is helped a good deal because his wife works part-time in a local industry, ironically, an industry with which one of the members of this Legislature once had something to do—one of the very lovely members of this Legislature who retired I guess it was in 1971 from the Liberal caucus—and this makes it possible for this fellow to keep going and for his wife to keep going. He considers himself lucky in a way that he is still alive and he wants to continue fighting.

But I'm telling you, it's not only tragic in terms of what has happened to him but in terms of what he is now receiving. On his workmen's compensation he is getting 38 per cent of what he would be getting were he still employed in the mine. Thirty-eight per cent is what the state is paying to this man who worked for 15 years before the tragedy befell him in the mine. It appears as though the cancer is stabilized. Maybe he still has a lot of time left and maybe he can still make that kind of contribution, but he makes the point, and it's a very powerful point, that we could be on the threshold of something quite distressing in Elliot Lake as these cases continue to multiply. I refer the committee again to the explosion at the sintering plant in Inco. Suddenly, overnight, what—36 or 38 deaths?

Mr. Martel: Thirty-six cases of cancer.

Mr. Lewis: Well, 36 cases of cancer, all of them related, suddenly emerging because of the incubation period, if I can put it that way. There is a long incubation period going on at Elliot Lake, because nobody has done anything up until May of 1974, virtually not a thing. I don't know how you calculate the human loss that will occur in the late 1970s and 1980s unless we come to our senses.

Mr. Chairman, I have a few wrap-up comments, particularly about some of the solutions and a particular inquiry, and I'd like to adjourn and resume at 8, having made personal arrangements to be able to return for a short period of time.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

ERRATA

No.	Page	Col.	Line
S-16	S-451	1	7
S-17	S-471	1	52

This line should be deleted and re-inserted at the top of the column.

Should read:

You were vague again this year in the matter

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Legislature of Ontario Debates

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**Standing Resources
Development Committee**
Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Thursday, May 23, 1974
Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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1974

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(Daily index of proceedings appears at back of this issue.)

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1974

The committee resumed at 8 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

(continued)

On vote 2204:

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. Mr. Lewis.

Mr. S. Lewis (Scarborough West): Mr. Chairman, I don't have all that much more to say. I really want to summarize matters and put them in context.

As we adjourned at 6 o'clock, I had taken about 25 minutes to put on the record three individual cases which I thought were symptomatic of themes in Elliot Lake. One was the young miner with the young family who is in a pre-silicotic condition and is forced to continue to work underground because either the pension arrangements would be inadequate or there is no job anywhere else for him. Therefore, he is gradually participating, I guess, in his own self-destruction which the economic forces place upon him.

The second was an immigrant of Portuguese origin who had worked 15 years or thereabouts for Denison and Rio Algom and who found himself, at a 35 per cent disability rating, earning a total of \$297 a month from all income sources and no longer able to work.

The third was a classic cancer victim, job-related, fighting desperately to persuade others that this was a serious matter; seeing his life tumble around him were it not for the extraordinary resilience he has as a person and his family has.

I want to read one other case into the record, the last one. I had asked my research associate, to whom I have referred fairly often or from time to time, Linda Thomas, to go to Elliot Lake. She went with the member for Nickel Belt (Mr. Laughren). They interviewed people together and I asked Linda to talk very straightforwardly to a number of people who were suggested by the union—by the miners themselves, the health and safety committee—and to write

her impressions, to convey them as directly as she could, unadorned.

She wrote me a little memo on one other person. I want to read it into the record as she gave it to me because I trust her judgement and her perceptions. I think Mr. Laughren will attest to everything here. It concerns a Mrs. P:

Mrs. P.'s husband died of lung and liver cancer in February of this year. Dr. M, in Elliot Lake is convinced that the cancer resulted from working in the mines and put in a claim for workmen's compensation about six weeks ago. To date, neither Dr. M or Mrs. P have heard from the Workmen's Compensation Board.

Mr. P worked underground at Denison Mines for 17 years until his death on Feb. 22, 1974, at the age of 61. For the last five years he has not been well, in and out of hospital, but he continued to work when he could. He was on an hourly rate so that they have suffered financially for the last five years. She didn't know how much he made before he was ill but over the last five years he averaged \$8,000.

The sick benefits ended on Feb. 22, when she received a full life insurance payment of \$9,000. On top of that, she is now receiving a pension of \$77.73 per month. She owes \$6,000 on the mortgage and with that, plus the funeral expenses, the entire \$9,000 life insurance will be used up. Her only income then will be the pension of \$77.73 a month, hardly enough to feed, clothe and keep her house heated. She has been using the retirement savings since December and, "they won't last much longer. I guess then I will have to go on welfare. I guess I will have to get a job. I worked as a cashier before my husband got ill but who would hire me now? I am 54. Or I could get a room somewhere and sell the house."

She has three sons married and living in the Soo, Windsor and P.E.I. They were home in February during the last few weeks. She sees her son in the Soo every second weekend and he wants her to come to live with him but she feels you can't move in with your children.

Mrs. P is a very sweet little woman who takes immense pride in her home and garden. She is desperate to know what to do. The loneliness is almost more than she can handle right now. She clutched on to me and would have done almost anything to have me stay a few more minutes. Her face was clouded with worry and sadness. She pointed at her son's dog, which he had left behind on the last visit and said: "He's all I have now for company at night. I have my friends here but if I had known what the mines would do to my husband, I never would have moved to Elliot Lake."

There are some, I suppose, who see in such recitations a touch that is offensive and a touch that is maudlin. I see in them a very real form of truth about Elliot Lake which I don't think can be overstated. I don't know how the hell to put these things except in human terms because as always in this Legislature, when we are reduced to statistical evidence it never lives. There are all kinds of people, all kinds of miners in that community who would like to put their case if you opened that standing committee, as we have discussed, to some of those miners or to a man like Gib Gilchrist of the Steelworkers.

As I sit here, I would stake my reputation on Gib Gilchrist being able to persuade the Tory members of this committee, over and above any civil service evidence that could be introduced, of what is happening in those mines. That man speaks with such quiet and solidity and integrity that it runs through every word. There isn't a person who wouldn't understand and experience it that way. That's what's needed, I think. It's the kind of intellectual and emotional shock that is needed to grasp what we have been doing.

Now I simply have to ask, where does it lead? One of the things that it's leading to, so perverse and so annoying but so absolutely predictable, is intimidation, at the moment. Some of the men who are at the meetings, the men who have been filling out the complaint forms, the men who want to make an issue of their health and safety, are being harassed by management at both Rio Algom and Denison. I just can't believe that those things still go on. The company's answer is punitive always, and the men are kind of bitter about that. But they are obviously going to stick to their guns because they have walked out en masse in the greatest show of solidarity in the history of Denison. If they have to they will obviously do it again.

At the big meeting with the miners, Mr. Davis said that he would attend to all the complaints immediately, although he didn't know when they could be solved. Mr. Davis said that no warnings would be given to the company at times of future inspection although the men asked, as Mr. Davis will remember: "How is it that every time there is an inspector, he is accompanied by management? Why isn't it possible for you to have inspectors accompanied by the men?"

It poses a question which is fundamental to this whole issue. It is a question of view and of class. It's a question of the essential frailty of the ministry.

The ministry has surrounded itself with a management view. The workers are expendable in this process. The workers simply serve the productive process. They create the wealth which creates the company's profits. If in the process some of them die in industrial accidents or some of them get silicosis, or worse, those are the costs that are accrued in developing the mining industry.

There is a basic contempt for the rights of working people shot right through your ministry. Whether the minister realizes it or not, there is a basic contempt for the rights of working people in his response to the member for Cochrane South (Mr. Ferrier) when we started out this afternoon, because there are as many skilled miners who could be excellent inspectors of the mine, who know the job and understand the environment, as there are inspectors drawn from management everywhere.

I am not suggesting that you jettison your management inspectors—they have a right to work too—but that you change your emphasis and you understand that when the workers are lodging the complaints they are working on the blessed job eight hours a day and they understand the priorities. You should stop imposing on this ministry, and therefore on the working conditions, this perverse management view, which is everywhere evident in the Ministry of Natural Resources.

What about all the testing that is taking place? It is interesting to note that at the testing for lungs and for x-rays, 970 men turned out; a full eight per cent of the work force did not turn out. I suppose you can't compel men to take tests, although Denison compels men to take an annual examination. Maybe as part of that, these kinds of tests would be added. The feeling of many of the members of the health and safety com-

mittee was that the eight per cent probably represented a large number of men who were afraid to be tested, whose present health condition may be pretty grim, and who don't want it exposed, because what do they do?

It is as the member for Sudbury East (Mr. Martel) said when he talked to you about industrial deafness. Men who now have 25 or 30 per cent industrial deafness consign themselves to the prospect of 100 per cent industrial deafness because they can't afford to leave the mine, because there are no jobs for them on the surface and because there are no jobs for them anywhere else. If they end up getting a pension, they can't live on it. It is madness that these people who toil in the resource industry should have to suffer this kind of physical disability for the sake of some perverse management concept. Let us suppose you hold all your tests—which, incidentally, should be held every single year from now on—and have the whole battery of them repeated again and again. That's because of the explosive quality of silicosis and cancer; that's because of the way these things don't turn up one year and then turn up holus-bolus the next year; that's because the dust particles suddenly become shadows, suddenly become clouds and suddenly become lung removal. You should go through the whole battery of tests every single year and understand it that way and see it that way.

But what if your tests turn up a great many more people in a pre-silicotic condition? What if your air quality surveys turn up the need to do something about the working conditions in the mine? I submit to you the ministry still hasn't taken one step to impose upon Denison and Rio Algom—Denison, in particular—the only conceivable solution, and that is to remodel the ventilation processes in those mines. You have got to have at least three or four ventilation systems in Denison and, of course, it is an enormous outlay of money. But what is more important, Denison's profits or the lives of the men?

You are never going to solve it simply by taking tests to demonstrate the obvious. You have to impose on the mines, in recognition of mine safety, a solution to the difficulties of the health safety conditions in those mines, dealing from ventilation through to the question of the maximum amount of time that any man would ever spend underground. There obviously has to be a dictate on that; there obviously has to be a limit imposed by

law for the number of years or months or hours that men spend underground.

The basic choice is very simple. It is uranium or a disability; that is what you are giving the men now. It is the generation of nuclear power or the possibility of death. It is a hell of a choice that is being posed for a great many of those men and I just think it is time to end it all.

I may say, Mr. Chairman, that the whole process isn't worth one more life, not one more, and if you have to close those mines down in order to revamp them physically, and the state pays the workers in the interim at their existing salaries, then the NDP would support you every step of the way.

We would go further, of course. Philosophically, we would take over the mines. Knowing that we can't ask that of you, nor expect it of you—on grounds which I respect, even if I don't agree with them—then at the very least you keep the workers paid at full income and you revamp the mines. You don't keep another worker underground in existing conditions any longer than can be avoided.

I will admit, Mr. Chairman, that this brings out in me all the things that make me a socialist—and I want that on the record. This is what I detest about this economic system. The behaviour of these companies is what I detest about this economic system. I don't see them as some personalized bogey—I don't see it as a Jewett or a Roman, I want that understood.

I see it as the way the resource corporations work; where they make their profits and their wealth and their incomes off the health of their workers, and they give not a damn. And they have done it since the Fifties.

Look at the profit margins: Denison Mines in the last year, 1973, over the year before, up in profits from \$7.8 million to \$9.8 million; Rio Algom in the same period, up in profits from \$16.3 million to \$52 million—219 per cent profit in one year. Your return on investment is equally obscene. And at the Workmen's Compensation Board we have our little parade of silicosis cases.

You know, it is a situation where people just don't understand the difference between right and wrong. It is a situation where basic human values are so twisted that it is not tolerable.

There was a Tory in the 19th century, whom many of us were rather fond of, even on the left; a chap named Disraeli. He wrote rather feelingly about the way in which the economic system of the upper classes ground their wealth out of the brows of the lower

classes. It was in his terms, admittedly pretty skimpy terms, a kind of analysis of the perversity of the economic system. And from Disraeli to Burke, from Burke to Disraeli, going back that far, there were Tories who once believed that this kind of thing is amoral. Apparently no longer.

It is possible to sacrifice human health for the sake of contractual undertakings. We want no part of it. We want the chairman and the ministry to understand—the chairman, I am sure does; I don't mean that to be beligerent—that these men are serious in Elliot Lake. They didn't protest for the hell of it and they didn't protest for the cost of living, they protested over health.

I feel very, very frustrated, Mr. Minister. I guess there is not terribly much love lost between us and I guess that might as well be said. I don't feel any particular animus, I just feel an immense frustration. This ministry is so loaded with a management view of the mines that it is of epidemic proportion in itself; and I don't know how to get around it.

I would want to call for a judicial inquiry because the situation at Elliot Lake merits it. I would echo my colleague from Sudbury East in calling for the minister's resignation. I'd like to charge a lot of people in that ministry with criminal negligence in respect of Elliot Lake, but I know that none of those things are possible, nor would they happen; I will call for them anyway.

But we have to sound the warning note that it has gone too far and that we have been too lax, too indifferent, too smug. We knew in 1960 what was afoot. It was documented in 1968 and 1969. The representations of the miners flowed throughout that decade. Even the doctors dealing with it began to see the press of the problem in the Seventies.

If there had been one jot of evidence that anyone was taking it seriously, other than the recent tests, we would feel a lot better about it. But except for the Ministry of Health—God bless the Ministry of Health for what they are presently willing to do—there just isn't any such evidence. I therefore don't know where to turn.

I have in front of me the statutes. I read you the clauses. The clauses are being violated every day. How does that happen in Ontario, when the health and the safety of the men are involved? My colleague from Sandwich-Riverside (Mr. Burr), when he was speaking in the Legislature in the estimates of the Ministry of Energy, raised the moral

question of whether it was worth continued nuclear development at the expense of so many workers, and that clearly the question has been answered. It is not, and therefore, clearly we have to do something about it.

It has to go far beyond tests, far beyond the rituals and all the reassurances, and it has to go far beyond the meetings. It has to go right to a purge of existing attitudes in the ministry about the rights of working people in the mines. You have to revamp the whole setup from tomorrow.

That is why we intend to raise it again in the Ministry of Health. That is why we intend to raise it again in the Ministry of Labour. That is why we intend to keep after it. And that is why I beg my Tory colleagues on the committee to consider the possibility of hearing directly from some of the men involved, so that graphically and directly we can experience what we are discussing, and so that the seriousness of this registers with everyone.

My colleague from Sudbury East asked about the resources development committee going to Elliot Lake. Not a bad idea at all. We can hear from the mine owners. I wouldn't mind that for a moment.

I guess I have very little left to say, Mr. Chairman. I hope the minister will reply. I know I haven't endeared myself to him. I know all of us who have been in this debate, all of the New Democrats at these tables, have probably angered and embittered members of the ministry. But you people have been getting away with far too much for far too long. It simply has to come to an end. I would appreciate the minister replying, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Minister.

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): Mr. Chairman, if I may respond. May I first thank the leader of the New Democratic Party for a very thoughtful, very forceful, very well-prepared presentation on a situation that I assure him is of real concern to all of us. I think his case is well-documented. He has, as I am sure the members will agree, researched it well. He has presented some documentation that may well go beyond the scope of these estimates. He has dealt with matters that are related, as he has correctly pointed out, to the Workmen's Compensation Board and to the Ministry of Health, which too are engaged in the problem of silicosis.

Being human, as I am sure all the members

of the committee are, we are very concerned with the situation as it exists in the Elliot Lake area. I can assure you we are not going to stand idly by and let it continue. We are going to come to grips with the situation.

The leader of the New Democratic Party has made some charges. I intend to review those charges in detail, as I review the records. Sitting in the responsible position that I am, I want to know the answers to those charges, and I am going to get those answers. Because I think, as every member of this committee feels, that if those charges are correct we certainly have to respond to them.

I think it's fair to say that the leader of the New Democratic Party has clearly pointed out the complexity of the problem in dealing with silicosis. He went back several years, and related how it built up to the year 1961. Quite frankly, I was led to believe, as an example, the situation with ventilation had improved and it was adequate. It's obvious from your charges, if they are correct, that this is not the case. I will certainly have that very carefully reviewed, because I think that this is one aspect of the silicosis problem that must be carefully gone into. We all realize this from the discussions that have gone on in the last two or three days.

Many of the things that you brought up, sir, have been brought up by members of the other parties. I can say that my own colleagues have brought it to my attention so that it's not a problem solely related to one particular group in this room. I think we are all concerned.

I must say to you, in answer to your suggestion that we accelerate our testing with regard to the employees in the uranium industry, that this is something I agree with wholeheartedly. I think that we should do an annual x-ray. I think that the sputum test should be taken on an annual basis. I am prepared to recommend that to the Minister of Health (Mr. Miller). In fact, along with other testing, it should be conducted more regularly and possibly more stringently. If better records are necessary, we should enforce regulations to make sure better records are kept.

I could go on in some detail as to my reaction. I am very cognizant of course after listening to your presentation, and to those of your colleagues, of the seriousness of the situation. The individual cases to which you

referred are certainly of concern to every one of us and I am sure everyone of my staff.

I am prepared to review the comments in detail. I intend to discuss this in broad detail with my colleagues, the Minister of Labour (Mr. Guindon) and with the Minister of Health. I am prepared to make certain recommendations to them. I regret that I cannot elaborate as to the terms of reference that I will recommend to them but within 10 days I will give you an assurance that I will make a statement in the Legislature outlining to the Legislature a plan of action that we will take to deal with the situation of silicosis in the Province of Ontario as it relates to the mining industry.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): And to the deaf?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And the deaf, and all aspects of it. I further assure you that the route that we will take will have the involvement of the union involved, be it through the medical field or what other field that we choose to take. I am firmly convinced, as you correctly pointed out, that the labour force does have an input in this particular field.

I share your view that they are there eight hours a day, five days a week, and they have an input and they have a concern. There are people in those particular areas who I am sure can contribute to the action that we take. So I leave that assurance with you that within 10 days I will make a formal statement in the Legislature outlining a plan of action. And this plan of action will get under way immediately.

I would point out, as you have correctly done, that last November we met with the officials of the Steelworkers. We reviewed in detail their various requests as to what course we should follow in conjunction with the Ministry of Health.

The Ministry of Health embarked on a very ambitious programme of x-raying and making other health tests on the workers at Elliot Lake. That will continue, as will our study of the ventilation and the dust conditions and the diesel fumes in the mining industry in the Elliot Lake area. That will get under way, as has been pointed out, on May 27. Regretfully, because of being unable to obtain the necessary expertise—we want the best in the business involved in this particular situation—we could not get

on with this particular study immediately as we would have liked to have done.

The plan of action I am going to recommend is one that will not be another study; it will not be another survey. I think there is sufficient information, as my executive director of mining, Mr. Jewett, has pointed out. He feels strongly, as I do, that we can start immediately from the information which has been gathered. Dr. Patterson's report is being printed now and that will be available to us. There is no reason we have to wait.

We can get on with reviewing that, get on with the reports of the Ministry of Health and our own evaluation of the ventilation system and the dust control system which is now going to be embarked upon. That can be pulled together so we can get on. I don't think we have to wait six months or a year. In fact, I hope I can put a specific date on when we can expect some recommendations from the type of review we would set up on these particular studies.

I further assure you that during the course of the next few months I am going to insist that members of my senior staff, from my deputy minister down—including me—will visit many of these areas unannounced and will take it upon themselves to go underground and view for themselves the conditions that exist in the mining community. In no way will I allow them to advise the media, the unions or management that they are going into this particular area. I am going to insist, as I will do personally—and I intend to go into Elliot Lake myself—that we have personal examinations of the situations as they exist today.

I am going to take it upon myself to visit some of the people you have spelled out to get a personal, firsthand view of the situation. I am that concerned about it. I am sure I speak for the rest of my senior staff because we have discussed this in some detail.

I could go on at some length in replying to you but I just want to clear a member of my staff to whom you referred about harassment and the apparent inner connections we have with management. In one particular case, which was reported in the press as late as today, a Mr. Harry Bone, who is an employee of the Ministry of Natural Resources in Elliot Lake, was accused of providing management with the names of four individuals who had filed a particular complaint against that particular mine. They were hauled before the superintendent and, of course, we know what followed.

I indicated, as late as last Tuesday, that I would have a full-scale investigation and as late as this morning, I had the opportunity of meeting that particular inspector and we reviewed the turn of events as they occurred. He pointed out to me that on Monday night, May 13, he was asked, along with Mr. Harry Weeks, to meet the safety committee of the union. This consisted of about 12 employees from both the surface and the underground operations of that particular mine. A number of complaints were discussed which had not been resolved in their approach to the company. Many of these, of course, dealt with various areas.

Mr. Bone had been asked to discuss these with the company but he indicated, of course, as is always the case, that if there is a complaint they should go to the management first and if it can't be resolved, then they take the next route and follow up. On Thursday morning Mr. Bone went to the Quirke Mine and met with Mr. Frank Jackson who is the general superintendent. The superintendent asked him where the complaints had originated with respect to the underground operations, and Mr. Bone admitted to him that they had been given to him by the union safety committee.

The union safety committee is broken up into three specific groups, four to each area. It was obvious that the four who were involved in the underground operations could be readily identified because they were part of the 12-man safety committee. Mr. Bone does not know the names of the individuals. It's fair to say that the four were called to the office of the superintendent. Mr. Bone was asked to attend. The employees were asked, in front of the inspector, if they had submitted the complaints. They denied this and the superintendent then asked Mr. Bone if he knew these men personally. He did not know them personally but he admitted that they were part of the union safety committee. To that point he knew them. He does not know the names of any of the four; he is not aware of their individual names, but they did form part of the safety committee which he met on the Monday night. At no time did he single out the men as the ones who had given him that particular complaint.

I would just like to set the record clear. At no time did an inspector of my ministry indicate to management that these were the men. Because of the circumstances and the makeup of the committee, it was obvious that management was able to single out those four individuals because they were from the underground section.

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): What do you think of those tactics?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I don't like it. I think this is uncouth. It's not the way that I would normally run an operation.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): If the complaints are legitimate they should be investigated, regardless of where the complaint came from.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's exactly right, but I am aware of the retaliation.

Mr. Lewis: You want to clear your man.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Lewis: I may say I quite deliberately didn't mention Mr. Bone, because I had no evidence other than the letter I saw. When I talked about harassment, I meant company harassment, not unlike what you've just described.

Mr. Laughren: Don't you see some kind of contradiction when management would feel that the mining inspectors should be brought in with those men? Don't you see that that's a perverse kind of view that they have of the role of the mining inspectors?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think we're anxious to correct the situation if there is a situation that exists. Certainly I am concerned about the retaliation of the company. I'm not going to say that this doesn't exist. I'm not that naive to think that it doesn't. A personal directive has gone out to the staff. It went out years ago. I met with them as late as this morning and they're very cognizant of it.

Mr. Martel: Can you lay charges under the Act anywhere for that type of intimidation against men? Is that possible for the ministry to do? Or would that come under your colleague, the Minister of Labour?

That's intimidation; I think we all recognize that. Why the witch-hunt? Men are complaining about legitimate complaints that your staff can investigate and either say yes or no. But where that sort of tactic would be used on men who are trying to ensure the safety of themselves and their fellow men, that type of intimidation can't be tolerated.

Is there no way that we can, once and for all, indicate to management we're not going to tolerate it? If you're not going to give the unions a say in safety right across the board—I'm not just talking about Elliot Lake—if they've got to fight, then they're always fighting with the jeopardy facing them of losing

their jobs. It might take six months if you harass the hell out of a man.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm prepared to look into that aspect.

Mr. Martel: I'd appreciate it if the minister would.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think it should be allowed to exist. I think that if there is an unsafe condition existing in any industry, then the workmen should be free to criticize management for that condition as it exists and not be harassed by any fear of losing their jobs or any other punishment that may come upon them.

Mr. Stokes: I know in the railway industry you were penalized in a punitive way if you didn't report an unsafe condition.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know how we're going to do this, but I'm prepared to look at that aspect of it. I don't know how we get at it. I just say that is an area of concern. If we're going to grapple with the safety conditions in industry, then that is one fear that has to be removed. There may be some suggestions you may have as to how we do it. If you have I would like to have them, because I'd like to get to the bottom of this.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Maybe that BC Act has something in it about that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We're prepared to look at anything, really we are. We're not that firm. I just want to say, in closing, that we're aware of the energy problems in the nation and in the world today. We're also aware that there's going to be an increased emphasis on uranium exploration, in uranium development.

There's going to be an increase in uranium mining. We require, we need, that source of energy and I say to you that at the expense of getting that energy we don't want to encourage any further disability with the workmen of this province—in any way, shape or form. We are going to come to grips with the situation. I say to you that there may be drastic actions taken within my own ministry, but I am prepared to take that responsibility and get on with the job of correcting that situation that exists today.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, if I may respond very briefly. The minister is so contrite, straightforward, and non-combative I hardly know how to deal with it. I suppose that is the best reply that one could ask for under the circumstances and we will certainly take

what the minister says and take it seriously and await your announcement. It may mean that there will have to be drastic action internally within the ministry as well as in the mines.

May I make a couple of suggestions to you? First, I am more than ready to co-operate with names and would give you a highly representative list of names of people in the Elliot Lake area who would talk quietly and privately with the minister and I think would make some impact on the minister.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would appreciate that.

Mr. Lewis: Secondly, although it is a bit unorthodox, it would be good, I think, if the minister was setting up, sort of apart from specific undertakings, a kind of continuing task force, that one member each of the opposition parties be considered part of that because there is a great deal of expertise. I know it can be seen as a watchdog role and I don't deny that, but it is something that if we are serious about it and we are honest about it, should be considered.

If you are going to make an announcement that goes beyond testing, then the implications for the mining companies are pretty significant. The implications will require some major structural changes and some major alterations, which I think your mines inspection branch in its more quiet moments might well concur in and recommend to the minister.

I have only to say that there is still time to save a great many lives and to prevent the explosive qualities which Dr. Mastro-matteo outlines and predicts. It is really a matter of salvaging every single day. So I urge you on and will be in the House within the 10 days when you make your reply.

I want to add one footnote to that. Can the same kind of understanding be given in the case of the industrial deafness and the acceleration in deafness which my colleague outlined Tuesday?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: As I pointed out during that particular debate, we are instituting a noise code on July 1. I would give that some consideration in the next period. I don't know if you were here or not at that particular time but one of our recommendations was that when the Ministry of Health does their annual examination of the miners for X-rays and for other health hazards, that

deafness and ear testing be one of those regular tests done. And certainly we will follow up that recommendation.

Mr. Martel: Could I voice to the minister though my concern? I indicated to you, I think, that programme is on track. I think we can prevent industrial deafness, at least according to the medical people I have been talking to. I have a tremendous concern with the number of cases that are apparently turning up, as I put on the record the other night—two or three a day—from one of the top specialists.

I just don't know what we do with them, Leo. I simply don't know what we are going to do with men of 40, 42, 45 years of age who, like the men with silicosis, if they remain on the job in that area will eventually be totally deaf. And if they leave the job, they end up with \$80 or \$90 a month pension. I don't know how we resolve it. Maybe that is why we are looking for the commitment.

But there is that group who have already reached a certain level, who have a choice to make now—stay there and get totally deaf, or move out and go on welfare. I don't know what to do with them, because these are proud people. Many of them are, again, untrainable because of their educational background. I think miners in the Sudbury area have, on the average, a grade 6 level of education. They are very difficult to re-train, especially if they are partially deaf.

What do we do with them? That's what really bothers me. We can take your programme from here to prevent it, but there are those who have reached that decision point now. They have to leave, or go stone deaf. I really worry about that group.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am just thinking off the top of my head, not having any technical advice, but as we move in to enforcing a noise code, it may well be that some of these changes may immediately show up. I am prepared to discuss this in greater depth with the Minister of Labour, who has jurisdiction for the Workmen's Compensation Board. It may be that some immediate action is required at that level, at that point in time, rather than waiting some lengthy period.

Mr. Martel: Some of them in the next year will be, percentage-wise, maybe three, four or five per cent more deaf than they are now. If we wait until next year at this

time, they might have lost another five per cent of their hearing.

Mr. Lewis: Mr. Chairman, if I can say this, the same is obviously true of those who are now pre-silicotic or silicotic, with this perhaps slightly invidious but real difference—that their health has been sacrificed to national goals as well as corporate goals. Therefore, the state has an obligation to those people exceeding almost any other obligation it has in the mining industry. It can be argued that in the case of those in the uranium industries, special provincial aid must be made available. If you are going to make an announcement within the next 10 days, that might well be part of it.

As I say, I am going to take it at face value and—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are concerned, as you know.

Mr. Lewis: —we are tenacious enough that we won't let it go if we are not happy.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have a tolerance system, as the Elliot Lake miners are aware. As you become tested, of course, you fall into a certain category. When you hit the 0.5 level, then of course you are recognized as having dust levels that are dangerous. My staff is personally concerned about the levels of 0.3 and 0.4—

Mr. Lewis: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —because they are coming up in that stage, and this is why we have to deal with it and get on with it.

Mr. Ferrier: Don't they do any watering down in those uranium mines?

Mr. Lewis: They do some.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Oh they do some, yes.

Mr. Ferrier: It is different from the gold mines, is it?

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Before the inspector goes down they water it down.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that we have a lot of work to do in there, in the weeks and months to come.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, there is one question that I want answered or cleared. In my question the other day to Mr. Davis, in the matter of radon gases, he indicated to me that the type of respirator—I don't know if it

is similar to the one that was shown here by Mr. Lewis this afternoon—removed the gases. Mr. Lewis said this afternoon that it does not remove the gases. Now let's have this matter cleared.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Harold, could you answer that question?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis (Director, Mines Engineering Branch): Perhaps I misled you on that particular point. But the fact remains that the respirator does filter the dust and the radon particles of the radiation, collect on these dust particles and this is how it gets into the throat and lungs.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, they are inhaled then. What is the life cycle of the radon gases?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Very, very low. It is a matter of half-life of about two days or so. But they vary. The four radon daughters vary. I haven't got the figures of the half-life, but they have a very short half-life.

Mr. Haggerty: A matter of about three days, would you suggest? Three to four days? It could cause a serious problem to the health of the miners, too, could it not?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Yes, it is there and as it decays it—

Mr. Haggerty: Are there primary and secondary ventilation systems in the Elliot Lake mines, in either of the mines in that area?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Yes, I would say there is a primary ventilation system which is the main air ventilation provided by compressed air pipes and air lines.

Mr. Haggerty: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman, I can't hear with all the noise going on. Would you mind repeating that, Mr. Davis?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: There is a primary ventilation system which is the main air inlet and air flow through the mine. In addition to this there are auxiliary ventilation systems which use compressed air, and smaller ventilation fans within the mine itself.

Mr. Haggerty: Are there any other forms of ventilation besides the mechanical? Or is there just the forced air ventilation through bored holes down the shafts of the mine?

Mr. H. F. R. Davis: Most of the mines have mechanical ventilation now.

Mr. G. A. Jewett (Executive Director, Division of Mines): Primarily the mines in Elliot Lake are, to my knowledge, equipped

with both the primary fans pushing the air down through large tunnels and exhaust fans pulling and pushing it out of the mine. I think that's the question you are asking.

Mr. Haggerty: What I wanted to know is if there are primary and secondary systems. Mr. Davis says there are.

Mr. Jewett: Yes and even tertiary ventilation at the working face.

Mr. Martel: It would get recirculated or some of it would get recirculated. The complaint with them was that much of that gets recirculated into the mine and creates as serious a hazard as before.

Mr. Jewett: I can't answer that comment. That is, I believe, among the terms of reference of this study group which was instructed to measure the ventilation and the character of the ventilation in every working place in both mines in Elliot Lake. Thereby, I would hope it will establish independently and authoritatively just what the situation is.

Mr. Haggerty: The other matter, Mr. Chairman, as I said before, is I have a list of about 85 cases of cancer in persons working in the smelting industry and I have a couple of cases dealing with persons employed in the mining operations dealing with quarry operations. I don't want to belabour this before the committee any longer. Will I have the opportunity to present the reports I have here in the committee meeting to be held next Wednesday?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is not up to me.

Mr. Haggerty: I would sooner; I think that is the proper place to do it with your experts from the department of environmental health and Workmens' Compensation. This meeting will be on—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I'm not going to stop the meeting; I'm not the chairman of the committee.

Mr. Haggerty: It was indicated a few days ago that there would be a special committee set up to go into this in more detail. Has this been changed?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not to my knowledge.

Mr. Haggerty: The meeting will be on next Wednesday?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know; I can't set the date. It is not up to me to set the date.

Mr. Chairman: I wasn't at that meeting on Friday morning.

Mr. Haggerty: Let's get this straight. There was an understanding that we would have a special committee meeting to deal with these.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I think it was a separate committee meeting but this is up to the committee to decide.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, is it—

Mr. Chairman: This was discussed, I understand, last Friday morning and I was only aware of it this morning when the member for Lanark (Mr. Wiseman) told me.

Mr. Haggerty: Surely you should have some record?

Mr. Chairman: Pardon?

Mr. Haggerty: You should have some record of that discussion, shouldn't you? It was proposed that we would have these meetings.

Mr. Lewis: It's in Hansard.

Mr. Chairman: It's in Hansard but I haven't seen it. They were sending it around to my office but I haven't got a copy this week.

Mr. J. N. Allan (Haldimand-Norfolk): Mr. Chairman, I am wondering if my understanding of the situation now is correct. I understood that the member for—where is it?

Mr. Lewis: Scarborough West.

Mr. Allan: Scarborough West—is satisfied. I'm satisfied now to wait for the statement of the minister. Is that not the understanding which exists?

Mr. Lewis: I would end my political career were I to say in advance that I was satisfied. I refuse to be put in that position. I shall await the commitment of the minister with some eagerness, but I wouldn't have thought that his commitment to a plan of action removes the value of having the standing committee itself explore some of the problems in Elliot Lake.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Right.

Mr. Lewis: I don't see that the two are inconsistent.

Mr. Allan: That would be my understanding of it.

Mr. Lewis: I didn't hear the minister put it that way.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, I apologize for not being here earlier. I wanted to make a few remarks on this. I would be willing to wait until the standing committee is looking into this matter.

I would agree with the member for Scarborough West that regardless of a commitment by the minister, the facts, as outlined—and I must admit also that I am not as informed as the member for Scarborough West—when I originally looked into this matter it appeared that a lot of what was raised was because of the wildcat strike. Economics and other things were mixed up in the discussion.

Subsequent to that, as the member for Scarborough West has outlined very well, there is a serious problem here. I think it is the duty and responsibility of this committee to look into it further. I personally would not be content to wait for a ministerial statement. I'm sure that the minister is concerned. He has to be concerned after what he has heard, but I think this is a matter that—and somebody can help me—I recall the Liberal and NDP critics talking about silicosis six or seven years ago when I first came into this Legislature. Obviously this matter has never been thoroughly dealt with to the extent that it has to date. I, for one, am not content to leave it up to the minister to make a statement, —complete and protracted though it may be.

It was my understanding that a commitment was made, on behalf of the committee, that hearings, if you want to call them that, would be held on Wednesdays, beginning next Wednesday. I think hearings are a function of this committee, and an important one.

Mr. Chairman: The problem, as I understand it, is that quite a number of the committee members have other obligations on Wednesdays. Other committees are sitting. I'm quite prepared to look into the matter and to discuss it with the committee at any time, as far as that goes. If we can operate with a quorum, all well and good.

Mr. Stokes: Would we have the committee here?

Mr. Reid: Most of the members of the committee are present.

Mr. Allan: Just to clear the matter up, it isn't quite that simple.

Mr. Chairman: The whole thing should be dealt with in these estimates, anyway, shouldn't it?

Mr. Allan: It wouldn't be in order for the committee sitting as an estimates committee to undertake the task that you are suggesting. The only way that could be done, as I understand it, would be to ask the House to give the committee authority to do that.

Mr. J. Root (Wellington-Dufferin): That is the point, Mr. Chairman, I was going to raise. In my experience, we are an extension of the House; if the House asks us to do that, then we do it. But I don't think we can, as a committee—while we are instructed to look at these estimates—go off and do other things.

Mr. Ferrier: We had an agreement last Friday morning that this committee would sit separately as a standing committee. We would decide on the matters that we wanted to examine in this particular study and then we would go ahead. On this basis, it wouldn't be an estimates committee. At that point, it would be a—

Mr. Haggerty: A standing committee.

Mr. Ferrier: —standing committee, as any other standing committee that is doing a study on a specific subject. Now, I don't know whether this committee should meet Wednesday and consider the terms—

Mr. Chairman: I think we should have a special meeting.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, can we do it this way, then? Can we pass a motion right here now asking the Legislature—

Some hon. members: No.

Mr. Reid: Why not? Why can we not do that?

Mr. Chairman: Order.

Mr. Reid: We can still make a report to the House.

Mr. Martel: It is my understanding that the resources development committee, like the social development committee, can, in fact, decide what work it wants to do other than—

Mr. Haggerty: —the same as the standing committee on health.

Mr. Martel: That is right. It doesn't have to do so at the discretion of the House. I can well recall when this committee used to meet with all the tourist operators three days a year—

Mr. Reid: I have often wondered what happened to them.

Mr. Martel: —when they were coming in over at the Macdonald Block and we didn't get authorization from the House to do that.

The natural resources committee simply met with those people who wanted to meet to discuss tourism. And the resources development committee—not the estimates committee—can determine the work it wants to do outside the Legislature.

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, if I might speak again. I take time to compliment the member for Scarborough West on his presentation today, on the tone of the presentation and the way in which the committee received it. I think it was parliamentary procedure at a level that we could be proud of. I think that the effort has resulted in action being taken along the line that—or that a forthcoming statement should set out that action.

I have faith in the minister that he was sincere in the statement that he made this evening. I expect from the statement that he made that he is going to do everything he can possibly do to accomplish some of the things that the speaker this afternoon suggested. I think we are all interested in this, that we have accomplished really something worthwhile. And I think we should go on from there.

Mr. Lewis: You know, this is the most gracious defusing process—the most congenial seduction I have ever been subjected to and I have been in this Legislature for 11 years. Despite my unfriendly comment of the other day toward you, Jim Allan, which I have regretted since, I will not be so easily dealt with.

I appreciate what you said about my remarks. I did invest some time and thought in them. So be it. And they won a ministerial response. Fine.

The fact is that last week the minister said—it was his suggestion, not ours; it came from the minister—he thought medical evidence should be brought before this committee. He thought at the time, I think in good faith, that it could come before the committee constituted as an estimate committee. Obviously,

we then learned, that was wrong. We then found on Friday that we could do it as a standing committee.

There is nothing in the world wrong with this group of people getting together and hearing on four or five successive Wednesdays—because that's what it would mean, maybe an occasional other day but probably not—from medical evidence, from maybe some of the Elliot Lake people, from some of the ministerial staff, about conditions at Elliot Lake. It would not inhibit his announcement. It would not misconstrue that announcement. It wouldn't change it. It wouldn't qualify it. It would make us perhaps rather more informed about the appropriateness of the announcement, about its practicability, about its effect. I think what we entered into in good faith last week should continue in this week.

I refuse to be forced to regret my presentation today simply because it might have been effective. I will not be dealt with in a fashion so cavalier. It's the ultimate offence for a politician. It's not the ultimate victory. So I—

Mr. Reid: Wouldn't you rather be loved to death than bludgeoned to death?

Mr. Lewis: I would much prefer to be bludgeoned. That is why we run third.

I do want to say to the chairman, as I understand it this committee entered into an arrangement. Really the committee would learn from it, would appreciate it. It's an important issue. Let's not try to skirt around it with a ministerial announcement. It isn't going to compromise the ministry or anything else. We are all going to learn a hell of a lot about the most vexatious problem in the mining industry. I want to suggest that we go ahead.

Ironically, and I say it with chagrin, I am out of the country next Wednesday, but I would like to get to as many of the meetings as possible thereafter because I would like to hear from these people as well.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, if I could just add one note to that. I think that one thing the member for Scarborough West left out that appeals to me is that perhaps we could make this whole process relevant, for a change, and really investigate and look into something that really concerns people. I think we have an obligation to do that.

I am sure that you in your wisdom and with the member, Mr. Allan, whom I've had to deal with and bludgeon to death, the same as the member for Scarborough West

on many occasions, I am sure that we can come to some kind of satisfactory arrangement; I would not otherwise be content. Besides the affection—I'll use Mr. Allan's tactics—that I have for the minister, I share his concern, but this is a very important topic, and I think we can't afford to leave it where it is. I think these hearings should be held, whatever parliamentary guise we want to hear them under.

Mr. Ferrier: Could we meet next Wednesday and set the guidelines as to what we want to accomplish and who we want to have before the committee?

Mr. Chairman: I think this is the only procedure we can take.

Mr. Ferrier: If we could get an undertaking from the chairman that there would be an organizational meeting to set the ground rules, I think that would satisfy us all this coming Wednesday.

Mr. Lewis: I'd even let the member for Oshawa (Mr. McIlveen) cross-examine if that was the condition of employment.

Mr. L. Maeck (Parry Sound): Mr. Chairman, there is one other item that we haven't considered here. That is the fact that this committee does examine the estimates of other ministries. I don't know what the schedule is. I am wondering if that should be checked into.

Mr. Lewis: Not on Wednesdays.

Mr. Maeck: We haven't been meeting on Wednesdays. We would if the House happens to meet that day.

Mr. Chairman: We are tied up Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

An hon. member: How about Wednesdays?

Mr. Reid: Wednesday is open.

Mr. Maeck: I think that is one thing that should be taken into consideration.

Mr. Chairman: There are other members who are—

Mr. Allan: Just so this is not a love feast, I am not prepared to make any arrangements in this committee dealing with estimates as to the sitting of the other committee.

Mr. Ferrier: Could we then entreat the chairman to call a meeting of the standing committee on resources development for this coming Wednesday with this specific purpose in mind?

Mr. Chairman: I was prepared to call one yesterday and it was rejected.

Mr. Ferrier: That was more or less for the estimates.

Mr. Lewis: We agreed on that. Jim Allan says he was busy. Jim Allan is for the first time in his political career reneging on an absolute commitment which he made, on a public undertaking—

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, I didn't make a commitment.

Mr. Ferrier: That's right.

Mr. Lewis: —for reasons which I regard as sinister.

Mr. Allan: Just to correct the record, if you will remember I said that I thought we should go on with the estimates, see how things turned out, then we would see what we would do about the other committee.

Mr. Laughren: That is convoluted.

An hon. member: I didn't agree with that.

Mr. Reid: It's consistent though.

An hon. member: Yes, never mind that—

Mr. Ferrier: May we meet next Wednesday?

Mr. Chairman: I am not going to give you a commitment until we meet next Wednesday.

Mr. Martel: The chairman of the resources—

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, we are not going to leave until we get some kind of agreement.

Mr. Chairman: We didn't meet last Wednesday. I'll take it under advisement. I am going to consider it because I want to know what the schedule is for this committee during the coming week because we are going to be—

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, do you not consider this matter of utmost importance?

Mr. Chairman: —dealing with estimates of another ministry on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Then we have members who are members of other committees on Wednesday. I don't want to call a meeting of this committee on Wednesday unless we can have at least a quorum.

Mr. Laughren: You already have made that commitment, Mr. Chairman. That is

already a commitment on the part of this committee.

Mr. Chairman: Well, I don't know about that because I unfortunately couldn't be here last Friday, as you are well aware.

Mr. Laughren: Well, you do know about that, because we made it last Friday.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, the minister himself made the commitment to the committee. He said he would bring before the committee people from the Workmen's Compensation Board who are knowledgeable, and people from the Ministry of Health who are knowledgeable. We couldn't get that group before an estimates committee because an estimates committee doesn't allow witnesses before it. You undertook then to have the appropriate committee meet with them apart from the estimates, and I don't think, Mr. Chairman, that at this stage of the game you can cross up the committee or the minister who made the suggestion originally. That is what you are attempting to do, and I suggest that you can't do that.

Mr. Haggerty: I suggest that the chairman should read Hansard because it's all in Hansard.

Mr. Martel: Now, if you are not the chairman of the resources development committee—

Mr. Haggerty: That commitment was made by the Chair and by the minister and I think you should abide by that.

Mr. Martel: Then I suggest the chairman of the resources development committee should call that meeting. This is the estimates committee, is it not?

An hon. member: No. This is the resources development committee.

Mr. Martel: Well, if you are the chairman of the natural resources committee sitting as an estimates committee—

Mr. Chairman: This is the resources development committee, not the natural resources committee.

Mr. Martel: —you have the power, in fact, to call that meeting.

Mr. Laughren: You have a commitment.

Mr. Martel: Not only the power, a commitment from the minister.

Mr. Lewis: We have a public agreement, it's all in the record. We agreed to meet next Wednesday on this matter.

An hon. member: Friday's chairman unfortunately couldn't be here tonight; not—

Mr. Chairman: I wasn't even aware of it until this afternoon.

Mr. Reid: You sound like a cabinet minister saying you can't be bound by your predecessor's commitments.

An hon. member: Sounds like—

Mr. Reid: Could we hear from the minister? The minister obviously has something to do with this. Could we not get a commitment from the minister?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, I have to repeat what has already been said. It was my hope that we could have the people from the Workmen's Compensation Board and Health here. It is obvious that the rules of the House would not allow this. I think the suggestion was not to have them before this estimates committee.

Mr. Haggerty: The minister is backtracking now.

Mr. J. F. Foulds (Port Arthur): Not before estimates.

Mr. Reid: All right, let the man finish.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order, please.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The suggestion arose that it go to the resources development committee. My own opinion would be that this resources development committee should meet and discuss the issue outside of these estimates.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Mr. Lewis: That is what we agreed to.

Mr. Reid: Well, why can we not do that next Wednesday afternoon or next Wednesday morning?

Mr. Chairman: I cannot meet next Wednesday because I've made other arrangements.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I would be glad to get in touch with Mr. Wiseman.

Mr. Reid: Yes, and he is a much better chairman so I think we would all agree to that.

Mr. Chairman: I'm glad to hear that. I don't know how the hon. member for Rainy River would know that since he hasn't come here often.

Mr. Reid: I have seen enough of the chairman to know that anybody has to be an improvement.

Mr. Maeck: Back to the estimates.

Mr. Lewis: Just a second. On the assumption that Mr. Wiseman can be here, may we proceed as we had all agreed we should proceed? Let's do it on the minister's terms. Let's have Workmen's Compensation and Health people here clearly talking from a government vantage point at 2 o'clock or 3 o'clock next Wednesday afternoon. That is what we had agreed to do.

Mr. Reid: And you can clear up all the parliamentary details between now and Wednesday?

Mr. Lewis: I don't understand why it is being reversed simply because the minister is going to make a statement in the House. Ministers say that all the time for heaven's sake. That is not enough to appease us.

Mr. Chairman: I think this is something that should be discussed by the committee itself.

An hon. member: It should just be the sub-planning committee.

Mr. Chairman: It's all at hand. It's on record right now.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: I know there are other members of the committee who have commitments next Wednesday, that's the problem.

Mr. Haggerty: We all have commitments but surely there can be a quorum.

Mr. Lewis: We agreed not to meet yesterday, Mr. Chairman, because of those commitments. Then next Wednesday, we said, would be free and everybody, even the member for Hastings (Mr. Rollins), who pointed out—

Mr. Reid: We do not have public accounts next Wednesday, Mr. Chairman, which we had this Wednesday, which will free the more important members of this committee.

Mr. Lewis: That is right. Messrs. Ferrier and Germa were both here at the time.

Mr. Reid: That will be a change.

Mr. Lewis: Jim, are you nominating Stephen Roman for the federal House? What is your personal conflict of interest in him?

Mr. Allan: I don't know Stephen Roman.

Mr. Lewis: Well, it is time the hon. member did. The member should bring him into the committee.

Mr. Allan: Why should I know him?

Mr. Lewis: He is a swashbuckling Tory, that is why.

Mr. Allan: I had always understood that he wasn't until just lately. I don't think he was an NDPer, I can almost guarantee that.

Mr. Lewis: He is an antediluvian Pleistocene man and it is time the member met him. Are we agreed Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Root: Mr. Chairman, as far as next Wednesday is concerned, I have other commitments unless I can cancel them.

Mr. Reid: How does Tuesday morning sound?

Mr. Ferrier: Wednesday is supposed to be a committee day for the standing committees of the House to meet. This is why we agreed to that motion—when it goes through so that those committees will have the day free to do their work—

Mr. R. B. Beckett (Brantford): What motion?

Mr. Ferrier: —when these committees are set up and when Wednesday is not made a sitting day in the House. Now, when the committee wants to meet on Wednesday and do some work, everybody says they have got another commitment some place else and they don't want to sit down and do their work on the day that is a committee day.

Mr. Lewis: I will pair with John Root for next Wednesday.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Reid: An even match. Put on 100 lb, Stephen.

Mr. Lewis: The hon. member has my commitment.

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): You know, Stephen, unfortunately you are not a member of the committee. I'm a member of the committee.

Mr. Lewis: I will not be here. I'm an ex officio member of this committee.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, we will see if we can find a compromise. Will you find one day next week—some morning, if not Wednesday afternoon? Monday morning, Tuesday morning, Thursday morning?

Mr. Evans: Why doesn't the hon. member leave it up to the chairman and the minister? They will call it.

Mr. Martel: What the hell are you talking about? There was an agreement last Friday morning to meet a week from Wednesday. Now stop playing games.

Mr. Root: I don't think that is very parliamentary language. Cut it out.

Mr. Martel: Oh, don't give me your—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Foulds: You are engaged in a non-parliamentary technique to divert the purpose of this committee.

Mr. Chairman: We are a little out of the estimates.

Mr. Lewis: No, we are not off the topic. We are right on it. As a matter of fact it is almost becoming political.

Interjection by an hon. member.

An hon. member: It is a terrible thing to bring into a committee meeting.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: Are we meeting next Wednesday at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, as agreed?

An hon. member: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: I would be glad to call a meeting, but I can't call a meeting because I won't be here next Wednesday at 2 o'clock.

Mr. Martel: You have a vice-chairman.

Mr. Chairman: As I gave you a previous commitment, I will discuss it with Mr. Wiseman to see if he is available. And I will give the—

Mr. Lewis: Will you ask him to call the meeting at 2 o'clock, clearly in the absence of Mr. Allan, Mr. Root, and myself, but in the presence of everybody else?

Mr. Chairman: But I am not available. I have made a commitment this week.

Mr. Root: I don't hear a member of the committee speaking.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, what do you intend to do if you don't call a meeting next Wednesday?

Mr. Chairman: You mean the committee?

Mr. Lewis: What are you afraid of, you people? What are you afraid of?

Mr. Root: Why? Were you planning on being at this committee?

Mr. Chairman: I am not afraid of anything.

Mr. Lewis: Have you no interest in the subject?

Mr. Stokes: Have you no faith in the minister?

Mr. Lewis: The minister has asked for it.

An hon. member: You have no faith in the minister.

Mr. Lewis: The minister has asked for it, for heaven's sake.

Mr. Allan: My feeling at the present time is that the minister is going to do everything he can possibly do to accomplish what we all want to accomplish. That is my feeling.

Mr. Reid: He has been saying that for years.

Mr. Lewis: But even if that were so, that doesn't say that it is invalid for the committee to be aware, to be informed of what is involved. Why does it preclude the committee learning something?

Mr. Allan: I believed some of the things you said this afternoon, and I thought I was very well informed.

Mr. Lewis: I appreciate that. It wasn't, as a matter of fact. It was very skimpy and

superficial, and I would like to have the committee deal with it.

Mr. Allan: It wasn't skimpy or superficial. It was well done.

Mr. Root: I thought it was one of your better efforts, Stephen. And we listened. We listened carefully.

Mr. Reid: You are not going to get him with that one tonight.

Mr. Lewis: You are not kidding.

Mr. Martel: I realize it is Thursday, but could you have a heart?

Mr. P. J. Yakabuski (Renfrew South): Mr. Chairman, back on this same subject.

Mr. Reid: The voice of reason.

Mr. Yakabuski: My constituency is far removed from the areas of northern Ontario where intensive mining is done. But I too have rubbed shoulders with this problem, and I listened with great interest to the eloquent presentation of the member for Scarborough West.

Certainly this committee as an estimates committee is not qualified to deal with this problem, in total. Only the standing committee or a select committee has the powers and is the appropriate place to deal with the committee, because it is a many-sided problem.

Your people in the mines branch of the Ministry of Natural Resources certainly can deal with the safety conditions and safety programmes in the mines. The Ministry of Health has responsibility for testing and the general health of miners.

Then there is the other side. Again, the Ministry of Labour enters into the picture and the Workmen's Compensation Board is under that ministry. Certainly the matter of rehabilitation and compensation for the victims and their families is a matter that has to be taken into consideration. And I think it is a very important one, because in many cases we are going to have to go back as far as 10 or 12 years. I am not going to burden this committee with the cases that I have in mind.

As I said at the outset, I am far removed from the intensive mining areas of the province. However, even in my area I can think of at least four cases where I feel great injustices have been done. I don't say they have been done intentionally. I think part of the blame perhaps rests with the medical profession in that they would not categorically

state that this person contracted lung cancer by the fact that they worked in a uranium mine. But I know of at least three deaths of men who worked in one mine on one level where it was common knowledge that the ore at that level was of the very high grade.

I think there is a whole catalogue of errors and injustices which have happened over the last 10 to 12 years with regard to silicosis and lung cancer and certainly these things are going to have to be made right.

I am wondering if the minister in his investigations, or whatever it is going into these problems, if he has worked with an interdepartmental committee. Because I don't think you can attack this problem in a piecemeal fashion. I think that at least three ministries of this government are involved, and it has to be a co-operative, concerted effort by all three of these ministries. That is the way I think we can find a solution to it.

As I say, there are three areas. On the matter of safety conditions, I'm sure that your ministry can take steps to alleviate conditions if they do exist. I'm sure the Ministry of Health can look after the matter of testing. The all-important matter, insofar as the past is concerned, involves the Workmen's Compensation Board. Certainly that branch of the Ministry of Labour has to be involved, and involved very, very deeply.

I'm wondering, Mr. Minister, in your investigations into the problem by your mines branch, whether your people have been working with the other two ministries I mentioned, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labour, through the Workmen's Compensation Board.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would just say in response to that, Mr. Chairman, that we have been working closely with these other ministries, as has been indicated by my meeting with the union last November or December, when we brought together the expertise and agreed on a very intensive examination of the work. As I announced earlier this evening, my plan of action, which I will announce within the next 10 days, would include those ministries.

Mr. Yakabuski: There has to be a whole programme of rehabilitation and compensation for victims.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, could I make a suggestion? We have to break for a vote anyway. Can you not adjourn and go and check?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Yakabuski has the floor.

Mr. Reid: What floor?

Mr. Yakabuski: I just fear, Mr. Minister, in 10 days time your ministry and the other ministries will not have a programme that is going to take care of this side of the problem or this aspect of the problem.

Mr. Reid: We know that.

Mr. Lewis: That's a real danger, to be talking about compensation and rehabilitation. That's why it's worth having the committee discuss it.

Mr. Yakabuski: This is a side of it. I think these other two, the safety conditions and the testing, although they are so important, are not major problems. Rehabilitation and compensation is the real problem, as I see it.

Mr. Reid: While you are talking about prevention and also rehabilitation, Mr. Chairman, may I make this suggestion? We have to break for a vote in the House proper. Could you not in that time, if we adjourn right now, go and check with whomsoever you have to check with to constitute a standing committee if that's what it requires?

Mr. Chairman: When Mr. Wiseman is here, I will have a talk with him.

Mr. Reid: All right. Report back to us after the vote is taken, so that we can proceed hopefully on the basis of next Wednesday. Could we adjourn now while you go and do that?

Mr. Chairman: They said there wouldn't be a vote for 10 minutes; so we may as well continue for 10 minutes. Does this vote carry?

Mr. Haggerty: No, there are matters here that are not quite clear yet, Mr. Chairman.

I hope that this standing committee will continue to make further inquiries into the operations of the mining industry in Ontario. I think it's the responsibility of the minister and the Legislature to promote the health and the environment in the mining industries in Ontario. I think this is the minister's responsibility.

From my probing and questioning here during the estimates I'm not a bit satisfied with the answers from the minister and his staff. Perhaps there are some misleading statements in here, or some misunderstandings between myself and the questioning that that was going on. But there is the ques-

tion of doubt in my mind that this department has not been doing the job it should have to protect the workers in the mines.

Mr. Reid: Not for years.

Mr. Haggerty: I don't want this to be a matter where the minister comes out and makes a statement in 10 days and says everything is fine and dandy. I have sat here for almost six years dealing with environmental and occupational health diseases in all industries in Ontario, and I don't want to lose this opportunity now to pursue this matter with further inquiries. I know there's a problem there and I want to get to the root of it, and I hope that the minister will go to the root of the problem too.

Too often the labour people in industry today are left out on a limb. They have no voice or say in any of the problems dealing with their employment. Many of them come down with occupational disease and they're kicked out into pasture at a measly pension of \$90, \$45, \$195—less than what they would get on welfare—and are not able to continue on full employment. I think this minister has a great responsibility to the mining people, to the labourers working in the mines.

I want to be able to continue in the further probing of this situation. I think it is serious enough now that the door is open, and I want to continue to clear the air. I don't get riled up often, but in this case I want to continue because I have many items here that I'd like to discuss in more detail.

I don't want to take the time of the committee dealing with the estimates. I think it was agreed upon the other day in a commitment from the Chair and from the minister that the committee would have this opportunity to deal with this thing in more detail—to get to the root of the problem. And there is a problem. I don't want it to be sloughed off or pushed off to the side. Let's get to the problem and get it out into the open. These men must be protected now, not 10 years from now.

Mr. Martel: Well, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: As I explained to Mr. Reid, I will contact Mr. Wiseman and see if he is available on Wednesday. I'll be glad to call a committee meeting, but I do have a commitment for Wednesday.

Mr. Reid: I can appreciate your problem. But after the vote is taken and we come back, will you tell us what is happening?

Mr. Chairman: Providing he's in the House.

Mr. Lewis: Are we adjourning for the vote now?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, we will adjourn for the vote.

The committee recessed at 9:30 o'clock, p.m., for a vote in the House and reconvened at 9:55.

Mr. Chairman: We will now proceed with the estimates.

Mr. Reid: You said, Mr. Chairman, you were going to give me an answer.

Mr. Chairman: I said if Mr. Wiseman was here I would contact him but he wasn't here.

Mr. Foulds: Mr. Chairman, I have before me the Instant Hansard for Friday, May 17. The committee met at 11 o'clock; Mr. Wiseman was in the chair. On page S747-2, May 17, 1974, Mr. Chairman says, "I understand from the clerk that on Wednesdays we can meet."

And then later on—

Mr. Haggerty: At 747-4, the minister said, "I think my staff along with the staff of other ministries would be there."

Mr. Foulds: Here we are; on page S748-3, Mr. Chairman says, "We have agreed that we will meet a week from Wednesday." Mr. Allan said, on the subsequent page, "I think the committee when they sit should decide what they should do."

I think that's pretty conclusive. I think that's a commitment from Mr. Wiseman that he is available next Wednesday. I think this committee should meet next Wednesday as was agreed last Friday.

Mr. Ferrier: How can you renege on a commitment which has already been made?

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, to clear this thing up and get it so we can get on to something else I would like to make a motion that any meeting of this committee be delayed until after the minister has made his statement.

Some hon. members: No.

Mr. Root: I second the motion.

Mr. Reid: We can't accept that.

Mr. Chairman: We have a motion. I'll have to take a vote.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, the motion is out of order. We already have a commitment from the Chair and from the minister. Mr. Allan goes on to say, on page S747-3, at the bottom of the page:

Mr. Chairman, I would have to object to that beginning this Wednesday. [Of course that was the coming Wednesday] We have a very full meeting in the public accounts committee that day and members are members on both committees, and I don't think we could do it this way.

Of course, next week the public accounts committee is not meeting, so I interpreted it that the meeting would be for next Wednesday.

Mr. Reid: In anticipation of this meeting?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, if I may comment, with all due respect I don't think that any member of the committee was aware of the commitment that I would give to the committee this evening. The plan of action that I would reveal before the Legislature within 10 days was unknown at that point in time, when that discussion took place. I would have to concur with Mr. Allan's suggestion and his motion.

Mr. Reid: Are you weasling out of this?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not a bit. I think that we've gone—

Mr. C. E. McIlveen (Oshawa): Come off it, we're not weasling out of anything.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —a lot further today after hearing the hon. member for Scarborough West and hearing the other presentations of the last few days. I've made a commitment far beyond that which had been made up to that point in time.

Mr. Reid: Do you not feel that such a meeting would serve a very useful purpose?

Mr. McIlveen: He has mentioned two or three times that he does.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I suggested it.

Mr. Reid: I know, but now you're trying to cancel it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That was my original suggestion, if you recall.

Mr. Allan: We want to hear what the minister has to say.

Mr. Haggerty: On page 748-3, this is what I said later on in the debate:

Mr. Chairman, I think we are intelligent men sitting here, and I think in the first meeting or so that we can sit down with the different department heads here and do a little probing this way. I think from there on we can draw our own conclusions and then go to the public for further information. This party is not prepared with the medical evidence to support any hearing next week here before all the professions. I think we would have to have time to prepare ourselves for it.

I've gone out and I've got some information from experts in the field in my part of the field in the Welland South riding, dealing with the smeltering part and the refinery part of the International Nickel Co. I have some of the persons employed in that industry who are experts, in my view, that will give me the information that I'm looking for. I thought then that I could perhaps present those views next week or the following week. As I mentioned before, I have a list of 85 persons who are involved in some form of occupational disease, in particular with cancer. They are persons employed in the nickel industry. I would like to continue on that basis.

Mr. Chairman: It seems to me that the minister has made a commitment that we should respect.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, he made that commitment and we want him to respect that.

Mr. Foulds: Mr. Chairman, with great respect, this happens to be a parliamentary democracy that happens to have a parliamentary procedure. The governmental investigation can proceed. That should not preclude this committee taking on the responsibilities that it has already committed itself to. It can do no damage; it can do a good deal of good. I do not see why the other members of this committee are abdicating their responsibility to a commitment they made last Friday.

Mr. Chairman: We have a motion before the committee.

Mr. Lewis: I don't see how you can consider this motion, with respect, Mr. Chairman. You'd have to have unanimous consent for this motion. This motion reverses a decision of the committee. The point that my

colleague from Port Arthur makes about the distinction between government and the Legislature, a point which is hanging up the entire Camp commission now, by the way, is a point which is extremely valid. You people over there can't make a distinction between what the minister does as a minister and what we as legislators have a right to do. We've decided what we want to do, independent of the minister. I'll accept his words in good faith and I'll wait for that pronouncement, but we have a commitment. We have an undertaking. You can't now move a motion to reverse that, when we agreed conclusively that that's the way we would proceed.

Mr. Allan: We're not reversing it.

Mr. Reid: Yes, you are.

Mr. Lewis: Certainly you are.

Mr. Maack: We are waiting until after the statement comes out. There is nothing wrong with that.

Mr. Lewis: You're rejecting a commitment which the committee entered into.

Mr. Evans: We never made any commitment. I never made any commitment as a committee. There was no vote taken last Friday.

Mr. Martel: Well, you should have been here then last Friday.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Evans: I was here last Friday.

Mr. Stokes: The committee was duly constituted. They made a decision that they would meet a week from last Wednesday. It was concurred in by the minister, who said he would have all the resource people here. And I don't think anything has changed in the interim.

Mr. Martel: You better read Hansard, Mr. Evans, before you shake your head.

Mr. Evans: I was here and we never did anything like that.

Mr. Martel: Would you read it for Mr. Evans again?

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, my candid opinion is that the whole thing is out of order.

Mr. Foulds: Including your motion.

Mr. Allan: Including my motion and including any discussion that took place last week as an estimates committee to govern another committee. I think it's up to you to call the meeting, Mr. Chairman, when you do.

Mr. Foulds: With the greatest respect, Mr. Chairman, this is a standing committee of the Legislature. It happens at this time to have the estimates referred to it by the Legislature. That's one item of business that it can consider. The committee can meet independently of those estimates and consider other questions as it deems fit. There is nothing in the procedural rules, the standing orders of the House, that prevents the committee from meeting.

Mr. Reid: Or hearing people.

Mr. Foulds: As a standing committee.

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, a committee meeting as an estimates committee has different rules, and is a different committee from when it is meeting as another committee.

An hon. member: That's fair.

Mr. Reid: We will accept that, but maybe we could hear from Mr. Wiseman? Are you going to be available next Wednesday to live up to your commitment of last Friday?

Mr. D. J. Wiseman (Lanark): I am sorry. I am just getting in on this conversation.

Mr. Lewis: Your integrity is being questioned by your Conservative colleague.

Mr. Beckett: Mr. Chairman, would you read who is on the committee please?

Mr. Chairman: Allan, Beckett, Evans, Gaunt, Gilbertson, Good, Laughren, Ferrier, Maeck, McIlveen, MacNeil, Nuttall, Haggerty, Rollins, Root, Sargent, Stokes, Wiseman and Yakabuski.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is a very revealing list, I must admit.

Mr. Root: I think you should read a list of the people who are not on the committee.

Mr. Chairman: We have a motion before the committee.

Mr. Lewis: Our full complement is here.

Mr. Chairman: I am going to—is there any further discussion?

Mr. Lewis: I would like to hear Mr. Wiseman's views. We have now a motion which rejects a commitment he entered into when he stood as chairman of the committee.

Mr. Chairman: It is rather unfair to ask him for his views.

Mr. Martel: It is rather unfair what you are attempting to manipulate right now.

Mr. Stokes: It is not unfair to have him recall a commitment he made here last week.

Mr. Martel: It is on the record.

Mr. Chairman: I didn't say it was unfair to have him recall his commitment. I said it would be unfair to have him make a statement with regard to what we are doing right now.

Mr. Stokes: With regard to the commitment? I think it is entirely in order.

Mr. Ferrier: The Chair is not consistent—

Mr. Martel: The chairman has demonstrated some capacity this week.

Mr. Ferrier: —and will make a commitment and you are set to walk right over it. If the Chair is not impartial and you can't trust it, who the hell can you trust?

Mr. Chairman: I have a motion. All those in favour of the motion—

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: The motion is under debate. It is not being voted on. What is wrong with these people?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds?

Mr. Foulds: Are you going to railroad this motion through when the mover has said it is out of order? Are you going to allow this committee—

Mr. C. T. Rollins (Hastings): Whoa!

Mr. Chairman: You are taking that out of context, too.

Mr. Foulds: I am not taking it out of context whatsoever.

Mr. Allan: He said we had been out of order for over a week.

Mr. Martel: We should get a chairman who knows what is going on.

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, I am perfectly willing to withdraw my motion and to leave the thing entirely without any influence from this committee.

Mr. Lewis: You know what has happened? For reasons that I don't understand—as a matter of fact, I don't understand the role you are playing at all, Mr. Allan. It completely bewilders me because I don't sense it from your colleagues around you at all. I sense from your colleagues around you a willingness to explore what is happening in Elliot Lake to understand it and to be informed about it. Why is this tactic being proceeded with, in order to bury it, in order to avoid it?

Mr. Allan: It is not to bury it.

Mr. Lewis: If we lose this tonight we will never sit as a resources development committee inviting people to discuss Elliot Lake.

Mr. Allan: How do you know?

Mr. Lewis: You know it and I know it; we all know it. You are writing the death of this committee exploring what is happening at Elliot Lake. You are doing it tonight and you are doing it for reasons I don't understand.

Mr. Allan: It is a very reasonable—

Mr. Reid: Let's do our parliamentary duty for a change.

Mr. Lewis: I don't understand it. You are denying to the committee the right to do what it had already unanimously and comfortably agreed to do, which won't affect the committee.

Mr. Allan: We are not denying anything.

Mr. Lewis: What is it about? Are you afraid what will emerge about Elliot Lake? Are you afraid of the evidence that will be submitted?

Mr. Allan: No. We want to know what the minister is going to say.

Mr. Lewis: But what the minister says doesn't prejudice what comes before the committee.

Mr. Allan: Of course it does

Mr. Reid: The minister isn't God. He just acts that way but he isn't.

Mr. Root: Are we to meet for somebody to talk off the top of his head like they are doing tonight?

Mr. D. C. MacDonald (York South): The minister might benefit from learning what goes on in Elliot Lake. Obviously he has benefitted from what the hon. member for Scarborough West said earlier this evening—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Where does that voice come from, from out of the wilds?

Mr. Stokes: Obviously he wishes it was one of his recommendations.

Mr. Reid: Has the minister any objections to next Wednesday? Do you have any objections to meeting next Wednesday?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would have to agree with my colleague, Mr. Allan, I really would. As I said earlier, no member of this committee was aware of my commitment that I would meet—

Mr. Reid: That has nothing to do with it. As legislators we have a commitment to look into these matters. What you are going to do or not do doesn't affect our responsibility.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Chairman, I am not fully a member of this committee—I am a member of the committee but I have been replaced but I've got a voice. I would think, on the basis of the record, that nobody more than the minister could benefit from full information about Elliot Lake.

Mr. Lewis: It was at his request.

Mr. MacDonald: As I understand it the purpose of this committee is to bring in people who can give you information. Conceivably the statement you are going to make in the House will be the better for getting this information. Do you want to do it in a contained way, so contained that you have complete control of the situation? Because Stephen Lewis is dead correct—if this committee doesn't meet next Wednesday, it will never meet after your statement is made in the House—

Mr. Lewis: That's right.

Mr. MacDonald: —to deal with representations from the people in Elliot Lake.

Mr. Reid: They are consistent in that, in killing those things anyway.

Mr. MacDonald: And you know, the thing that fascinates me is that we set up the Camp commission to see what could be done to make the operations of the Legislature, in terms of the member of the Legislature and its committees, play a more meaningful role. You know why we needed the Camp commission? Precisely because of the kind of thing that has gone on here tonight.

Mr. Stokes: And there is no commitment over there to make it more relevant and more meaningful.

Mr. MacDonald: If it doesn't suit your political purpose, whatever it may be, you are going to kill an opportunity for a standing committee of the Legislature to do what it should have been doing down through the years—to find out what the facts are and assist the government to come up with the right conclusion.

Mr. Lewis: This is a premeditated denial of public information.

Mr. Allan: It is no such thing.

Mr. Lewis: It is calculated on your part. I don't understand it.

Mr. Allan: It is no such thing.

Mr. Lewis: I really don't understand it. I don't know what you have to lose.

Mr. Allan: This is ridiculous.

Mr. Reid: You're telling me!

Mr. Lewis: I didn't understand it last Friday and I don't understand it now, Jim Allan. I don't know why you won't allow us to do our jobs.

Mr. Allan: It is ridiculous to think that. I thought we were here to try to make suggestions to the minister that would benefit the people in Elliot Lake.

An hon. member: Fine.

Mr. Stokes: How are you going to do that if you don't get the facts?

Mr. Root: Do you mean to say Mr. Lewis didn't give us the facts this afternoon?

An hon. member: Well, that is not the end of the story.

Mr. Stokes: That's not the end of it. That's the beginning.

Mr. Reid: He is not always right or complete with all due respect.

Mr. Root: Who are you going to cut off?

Mr. Martel: We might go to Elliot Lake.

Mr. Stokes: No, don't be ridiculous.

Mr. Root: "We might go to Elliot Lake"—I've been in Elliot Lake.

Mr. Reid: We just might make this job mean something for a change. That's what we might do.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Root's conversion is both belated and spectacular. Suddenly he finds he has got all the information.

Mr. Root: I didn't say we had all the information.

Mr. Lewis: Well then, let's seek it.

Mr. Root: All right. How many do you want to bring down?

Mr. Lewis: We'll meet next Wednesday and we'll set it up.

Mr. Root: All right. Then you will meet next Wednesday—you'll meet for 10 years.

Mr. Lewis: Not necessarily. Let's have an organization committee next Wednesday; decide how we want to proceed. I have no doubt in my mind we could decide it with agreement on all sides. In three or four meetings we could have an enormous range of information. Why are you doing this? Why do you bring down the Tory Damocles Sword, when it needn't descend? You are just doing yourselves damage. I don't understand it.

Mr. Reid: It is in your own best interests to go along with this.

Mr. Allan: I greatly appreciate your consideration of our best interests.

Some hon. members: Yes, yes.

Mr. Reid: I thought you would. I am going to kill you with kindness, the way you do us.

Mr. MacDonald: You need some consideration from us.

Mr. Evans: The only reason you came in here was because some of the fellows from the north are stealing your thunder.

Mr. Lewis: Take this man from Haldimand-Norfolk. You never know; he sits there quietly and in a friendly way indicates to all his Tory confrères—

Mr. Allan: And I hope in a sensible way.

Mr. Lewis: In whatever way, you indicate what the party line is. You do it everywhere. You do it in every committee you sit on.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Beckett: What are you doing?

Mr. Lewis: You've even fingered the minister. He's coming around.

Mr. Beckett: What are you doing?

Mr. Lewis: You were like that when you were Treasurer—and you never forgot it.

Mr. Reid: With a lift of the eyebrow everyone shivered.

Mr. Lewis: John Root woke up when you spoke. Well, I'm tired of it. When Jim Allan speaks everyone jumps.

Mr. Root: You're speaking off the top of your head, and that's not the first time you've lied about me. Now, go ahead and tell another one.

Mr. Lewis: Come on now, you slept through my entire presentation.

Mr. Root: I did not. I did not.

Mr. Lewis: And it offended me.

Mr. Root: I shut my eyes so I wouldn't have to look at your face.

Mr. Lewis: But when you were snoring it offended me.

Mr. Chairman: Order. We have a motion before the committee.

An hon. member: Aw, get out of here.

Mr. Reid: The motion is out of order, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: All in favour of the motion will say "aye."

Those opposed say "nay."

Mr. Reid: The motion is out of order. We are not voting on that motion.

Mr. Stokes: I move an amendment to the motion.

Mr. Chairman: The motion is carried.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: The "ayes" have it.

Mr. Martel: You have demonstrated some capacity this past week.

Mr. Allan: Let him move his amendment.

Mr. Reid: This is like Hitler at the Reichstag.

Mr. Stokes: Where is your swastika? I didn't hear the motion. What was the motion?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Stokes: It was never read. Go and get a transcript of the motion and have the motion read.

Mr. Chairman: I say that the motion is carried.

Mr. Lewis: You know, Ronnie McNeil, you are reducing this process to a shambles. Now you better pull yourself into order. This is a committee of the Legislature. This isn't a pack of wolves. This is a committee of the Legislature.

Mr. Evans: He is not even on the committee.

Mr. Lewis: Look, you people over there, I don't care what you want to do, but you can do it in the context of the basic parliamentary rules. If you are going to railroad it through, don't play with it as though it is your own personal club.

Mr. Stokes: Would you read the motion, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Root: Mr. Chairman, on that point, the Legislature appointed a number of members to a committee and everybody who is not on the committee is having a lot to say. There was a motion moved by two members of this committee and it was voted on.

Mr. Lewis: We all have a voice on this committee. Every member of the House has a voice on this committee.

Mr. Root: Who are you substituting for?

Mr. Lewis: I don't need to substitute.

Mr. E. Sargent (Grey-Bruce): They don't need to substitute.

Mr. Root: Well, you don't vote.

Mr. Lewis: No, I am not voting—but I have a voice on this committee.

Mr. MacDonald: They changed their argument in mid-stream.

Mr. Lewis: What kind of nonsense is this in a committee of—I won't say it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Let's hear the amendment.

Mr. Allan: Did you want to make an amendment?

Mr. Stokes: Yes. I want to move that this committee live up to a commitment that was made last Friday morning by the deputy chairman of the committee.

Mr. Root: Was that on the basis of a motion?

Mr. Stokes: Yes.

Mr. Root: Was there a motion or was it just a statement?

An hon. member: No.

Mr. Stokes: That is a motion. It is just as much in order as yours was.

Mr. Reid: I move we get a new chairman.

Mr. Root: A motion is one thing and a statement is another.

Mr. Martel: I move we get a chairman.

Mr. Reid: You win your motion.

An hon. member: It takes precedence.

Mr. Martel: Because what we have isn't a chairman. He has demonstrated that several times this week. There was that outburst on Tuesday afternoon at 5:30 when the clerk didn't even leave, as he usually does, to find out how long it would be before we voted. In a fit of anger, the Chairman jumped up and adjourned the meeting. That was contrary to everything that has gone on in the years that we have had this committee meeting out here, during the times the clerk has gone to get information on a vote. And the committee wasn't adjourned and you demonstrated then your inability to chair a meeting.

Mr. Chairman: At that time I should have done it 10 minutes earlier.

Mr. Martel: He demonstrated his ability.

An hon. member: That is why he adjourned—

Mr. Reid: Could I hear that amendment again?

Mr. Stokes: I move that this committee live up to a commitment that was made unanimously to meet next Wednesday.

Mr. Haggerty: Agreed upon?

Mr. Martel: Certainly it was agreed upon. It was advanced by the minister.

An hon. member: Read what the deputy chairman said.

Mr. Stokes: Okay. It is a new motion.

Mr. Allan: Well, you can't very well bring a new motion while there is one before the House.

Mr. Stokes: What is the motion before the House? I haven't heard it.

An hon. member: There has been one passed.

Mr. Stokes: It didn't pass. The chairman never even read it. He doesn't even have a copy of it. I challenge him to repeat what the motion was.

An hon. member: Are you kidding.

Mr. Stokes: I challenge him to repeat the motion that he made.

Mr. Reid: Okay, Ronnie. What is your name, first of all? Full name.

Mr. Stokes: I challenge him to repeat the motion.

Mr. Martel: Yes, read the motion for us, will you, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: The motion was that we not have—

Mr. Martel: Read it.

Mr. Chairman: —a meeting called until after the minister had made his statement before the House.

Mr. Stokes: Have you got a copy of it?

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, I have listened to the cross fire—

Mr. Chairman: I'll have it right here in a minute.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, I have listened to the cross fire that has been taken place here in the last 10 or 15 minutes. It really is ridiculous. This just amounts to what some members of this committee think about the workers in the Province of Ontario. I am disheartened by the minister retracting his previous commitment. I am almost tempted—I should get up and walk out of this committee because I have lost all confidence in it.

An hon. member: We wouldn't miss you anyway.

Mr. Haggerty: If I don't get up and walk out I am going to get somebody against the wall.

Mr. Lewis: What does that mean?

Mr. Haggerty: There is always a recourse in a situation when somebody leads you to believe in something and then turns around and changes his mind and lets you down. I think it is dishonest of this committee to revert to the nonsense that has been going on. To see them reverse—

Mr. Martel: It is perverse.

Mr. Haggerty: "Perverse;" I don't know what it is. But I can tell you this much, I have lost all confidence in this committee and in particular the minister. I had great hopes that we would be able to continue into this matter of silicosis and other occupational diseases in the mining and smelting industry. The minister is doing this on purpose to get himself off the hook.

Mr. Lewis: It is not the minister.

Mr. Stokes: No, it is not the minister.

Mr. Haggerty: He knows it is a crisis right now and he wants to try to smooth things out and say, "I am doing something after a period of—"

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is a false statement.

Mr. Haggerty: It is not a false statement.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It certainly is and you know it.

Mr. Haggerty: No, I don't know it. I know what I am talking about.

Mr. Stokes: It is his colleagues who don't have confidence in him.

Mr. Haggerty: You have been misled by your staff and now you want to bail out—and this is the way that you are going to try to bail out of it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is entirely wrong.

Mr. Haggerty: You don't want a full inquiry into this matter at all—and there should be.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will have that.

Mr. Haggerty: No, you will not have that. I don't think it will ever come to that. It is

like the member for Scarborough West said: "This will be the end of it." I have seen the committees in this Legislature operate this way before.

Mr. Martel: I have watched Jim Allan for 6½ years play the—

Mr. Ferrier: The chairman is just destroying the credibility of the member for Lanark, who made a commitment last Friday. And there he sits, not saying anything.

Mr. Stokes: Come on, show a little backbone.

Mr. Ferrier: You made that commitment and—

Mr. Stokes: Show a little courage.

Mr. Ferrier: —we were prepared to proceed last week.

Mr. Stokes: Show a little intestinal fortitude!

Mr. Ferrier: We were prepared to proceed rather than hassle over this last week on the basis of what you said. You gave us a commitment that we would meet a week on Wednesday to consider these matters and to set the guidelines and now there's a complete renege on this. It was the unanimous agreement of all those committee members who were at the meeting last week.

Now, when it suits another chairman's purpose, he will not live up to a commitment the Chair has made. If the Chair is not being consistent and is prepared to reverse itself whenever it suits its own idea, how can you run any committee of this House—if it's just in the hands of the government and shows no independence and show no commitment to what it had already decided?

Mr. Martel: It's a disgrace.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, I understood when we broke to vote on the land speculation bill that you were going to get in touch with Mr. Wiseman to see if he would be able to be present as chairman next Wednesday.

Mr. Chairman: That's right.

Mr. Reid: Did you talk to Mr. Wiseman?

Mr. Chairman: I didn't have the opportunity because Mr. Wiseman wasn't here.

Mr. Reid: He's here now. Perhaps he could indicate whether or not he's going to be available next Wednesday.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Wiseman wasn't in the House and he wasn't in his office.

Mr. Wiseman: I will be here.

Mr. Reid: You'll be here? Then there's no reason we can't proceed. We have a chairman.

Mr. Martel: We have a chairman.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Wiseman can act as chairman in the absence of Mr. McNeil. We can proceed as was agreed upon and was committed to by Mr. Wiseman and others.

Mr. Lewis: Again the rules are changing. You left this committee for the vote and we all understood that was the purpose and there were no dissenting voices at that point. Now, Mr. Wiseman being available, again the rug is being pulled out from under us in a different direction. It's got to stop. You simply have to accept the fact that this committee can do a job and let it.

Mr. Reid: Was that not your understanding, Mr. Chairman? You were going to contact Mr. Wiseman and if he was available we would proceed on Wednesday?

Mr. Stokes: He admitted that.

Mr. Reid: Then I see no need for any further discussion. Mr. Wiseman is going to be here and we'll proceed.

Mr. Lewis: And you will rule Mr. Allan's motion out of order because it contravenes yet again what we agreed to as a committee. How many times can Mr. Allan override the committee, with respect to him? What kind of autocracy is this?

Mr. Allan: I am not overriding the committee.

Mr. Lewis: Certainly you are.

Mr. Martel: You were here on the agreement last week.

Mr. Lewis: You were here when we went to vote.

Mr. Allan: I was here but I didn't agree to it.

Mr. Lewis: You were here when we went to vote.

Mr. Martel: That's nonsense.

Mr. Ferrier: There was no dissent.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Root: How many members of the committee were here?

Mr. Ferrier: There was a duly constituted committee with a quorum.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Stokes: We don't sit unless there's a quorum. You ought to know that.

Mr. Reid: We had a commitment 15 minutes ago from the chairman that if Mr. Wiseman was available we would sit. Mr. Wiseman is available; what more is there? If we're going to be stabbed in the back every time we turn around we might as well all go home, we're wasting our time. When we left for the vote you said if Mr. Wiseman was available we would meet. Was that not the hang up?

Mr. Chairman: That's right, that's what I said. And he wasn't available.

Mr. Stokes: And are you prepared to stand by that?

Mr. Martel: He says he'll be here next Wednesday.

An hon. member: He just said he'd be here.

Mr. Lewis: Why are you accepting a motion which contradicts—

Mr. Chairman: We have a motion.

Mr. Lewis: But you made an undertaking to the committee, Mr. Chairman. The undertaking is now agreed to. Why do you accept a motion the mover of which says is out of order? Come on, don't let them bully you this way. Cut it out. What kind of nonsense is this?

Mr. Chairman: I have a motion.

Mr. Lewis: No, you do not have a motion.

Mr. Allan: I said I think we've been considering things we shouldn't have been considering. And I still have the feeling—

Mr. Lewis: Can I explain something to you in terms of time? If we meet next Wednesday as an organizational meeting to discuss how we will call people before us, it means that before the first meeting with witnesses occurs, the minister will have made his statement because that will be two weeks

hence. Therefore, everything will be in order. Your motion isn't needed. You don't have to protect him in any way. If you want to come in after the statement and undercut us, you can, but at least let us proceed in good faith now.

Mr. Allan: Really, this doesn't prevent anything that you are suggesting.

Mr. Lewis: Yes, it prevents our organizational meeting next Wednesday to decide how we are going to call witnesses and who the following week.

Mr. Rollins: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Allan: Mr. Chairman, I think that the calling of the committee should be left entirely to the chairman.

An hon. member: But the Chair has given its okay.

Mr. Rollins: Mr. Chairman, the minister has made a commitment—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Rollins: Just a minute, Jim.

Mr. Allan: Neither should we have commitments from this committee.

Mr. Lewis: But we had a commitment; we can't let things go on.

Mr. Rollins: Mr. Chairman, the minister has made a commitment to this committee, and if we as members of this committee, regardless of our political affiliation, haven't got the confidence of carrying out the wishes of this ministry, to make a statement such as he has committed to the committee, I feel that it is strictly a proposal of lack of confidence in what the minister has said to this committee here tonight.

Mr. Lewis: No.

Mr. Rollins: It certainly is.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, how can we have any confidence if we know on the record there was an agreement to meet next Wednesday and because the Tory back-benchers happen to outnumber the opposition they are willing to destroy—

Mr. Rollins: It is not a case of the Tory back-benchers, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Martel: It is a case of the Tory back-benchers.

Mr. Rollins: You talked here for hours. I am going to have a few minutes now myself.

Mr. Martel: And it is on the record that this committee will meet next Wednesday.

Mr. Rollins: And the minister has gone on the record, Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Ferrier: You have some miners in Bancroft. You should be interested in this committee meeting, too.

Mr. Rollins: That's the reason I am, but I still have confidence in the minister.

Mr. Foulds: But what is our commitment?

Mr. Rollins: But if you are talking in good faith, you will wait for the minister to make his announcement and take it from there.

Mr. Martel: Oh, you are so—

Mr. Ferrier: There is an awful lot more than what we are going to get from him, that we need to discuss with the minister.

Mr. Rollins: Well, now, isn't that just wonderful?

Mr. Reid: What we have to say to the minister has nothing to do with his statement.

Mr. Lewis: The minister isn't involved in this. This is a committee matter.

Mr. Allan: Mr. Minister, that is quite right. The minister shouldn't even be at our meeting.

Mr. Lewis: Well, that may be, but I don't see that we need call it. The minister has made a commitment which is a government commitment. We are a committee of the Legislature; we work independent of ministerial policy.

Mr. Rollins: We are here to discuss the estimates.

Mr. Lewis: You can't deprive us by government pronouncement. We are a committee of all parties, constituted to examine matters. And one of the matters we agreed to examine was the situation at Elliot Lake. That doesn't have to prejudice the minister or his announcement.

Mr. Allan: My conception of this whole thing was that it was thought by some that we should have representatives from Elliot Lake come to impress the minister with the need of taking action.

Mr. Lewis: No, we were informing the committee. That's why we were sitting here tonight.

Mr. Allan: Well, no, but—the minister takes the action.

Mr. Lewis: Yes, but we were—

Mr. Allan: And I would hope that we could influence him.

Mr. Lewis: Maybe we can, but we still are informing ourselves as a committee about the issue. What the minister does on the basis of the estimate discussion shouldn't prejudice what we do as a standing committee looking into a specific issue.

Mr. Allan: Well, I thought we were influencing him.

Mr. Lewis: Hopefully, we will.

Mr. Allan: I thought that you did such a good job this afternoon that he was convinced that he was going to do everything he could.

Mr. Lewis: Fine, and he is discharging his responsibility as he sees fit. But why can't the committee—

Mr. Allan: That is my ambition. To get him to move and do just what he said.

Mr. Lewis: May I suggest that the member withdraw his motion, that he has the chairman, Mr. Wiseman, meet next Wednesday as we had agreed twice now, and set out the organizational plans for meetings around Elliot Lake? Then the minister's statement will intervene. If at the point at which the minister's statement intervenes we want to re-evaluate the plans we have made, then it is fair. But you don't prejudice it in advance. You don't junk it in advance. You know that. You know that raises suspicion in the minds of the opposition immediately, and justifiably so.

Mr. Allan: It doesn't raise any suspicions.

Mr. Lewis: I know it doesn't raise any for you, and if you are acting in good faith then let us proceed as we have intended.

Mr. Allan: The thinking that was back of my resolution was that if we are not satisfied with the statement that he makes in the House, away we go.

Mr. Lewis: But you know that if we pass your motion tonight, it is over. It is game over for this, and you know that.

Mr. Allan: I don't know why you should say that.

Mr. Lewis: It is long experience.

Mr. Reid: If we don't proceed with it now, we never will.

Mr. Allan: I wouldn't expect that.

Mr. Chairman: Will the committee accept the following Tuesday? That gives the minister the opportunity of bringing in his statement.

Mr. Reid: How do you mean, the following Tuesday?

Mr. Lewis: You mean the first meeting would be the following Wednesday?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: After my statement.

Mr. Stokes: After his statement.

Mr. Lewis: But that would happen anyway. All we would have is an organization meeting next Wednesday.

Mr. Laughren: Won't we be into the month of June already?

Mr. Lewis: Give us next Wednesday for a discussion by the committee members who wish to attend, of the kinds of people we might have. I have no doubt we'd be in complete agreement. Then the minister's statement comes and if it is deemed that we re-evaluate it, we re-evaluate it. Does that not strike you as sensible?

Mr. Allan: The thing I would prefer is to leave the matter entirely to the chairman.

Mr. Reid: It is not even radical.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Allan: Do you wish me to withdraw my motion on the understanding that we leave the matter to the chairman?

Mr. Lewis: No. I think you should withdraw your motion on the understanding that the chairman next Wednesday is the member for Lanark and the member for Lanark has said to the committee—in good faith I might add—that he will call the committee together next Wednesday to discuss Elliot Lake, presumably on an organizational basis.

I am not compromising Mr. Wiseman when I say that. He agreed to that. He's the chairman next Wednesday.

Mr. Allan: Did he agree to that?

Mr. Lewis: Sure he did.

Mr. Reid: He just said in answer to me.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Lewis: Sure he did. He did it reasonably. I don't want to make it tough for him, but he did it reasonably.

Mr. Wiseman: We didn't vote on it but I agreed that we would meet next Wednesday for an organizational meeting.

Mr. Lewis: What is wrong with that?

Mr. Reid: There is nothing more to be said.

Mr. Wiseman: But we didn't vote on it.

Mr. Reid: The minister's statement has nothing to do with it.

An hon. member: Neither have you sitting there.

Mr. Reid: Come on, you guys. You are displaying your ignorance of the democratic process to the nth degree. What the minister does and what this committee does are two different things.

Mr. Lewis: We can't be tied by the minister. I appreciated what the minister said tonight; I concede that. I will be watching to see what happens but that can't prejudice our

rights as a committee. You can't tie a committee into the ministerial government position that way. You'd destroy the committees in that fashion.

Mr. Allan: I agree with you.

Mr. Lewis: If you agree, let us proceed on the understanding we had when we rose to vote tonight on the Land Speculation Tax Act.

Mr. Root: Could I make one comment?

Mr. Allan: If Mr. Wiseman says he agreed to do this, I withdraw my motion.

Mr. Chairman: In view of the fact I made a commitment that if Mr. Wiseman could be here, because I couldn't, the meeting will proceed next Wednesday.

Mr. Lewis: Excellent. We will work it out.

Mr. Reid: Fine. I move we adjourn.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Is the committee in favour of meeting next Wednesday?

Some hon. members: Yes.

The committee adjourned at 10:35 o'clock, p.m.

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Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1974

The committee met at 11 o'clock, a.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

(Continued)

On vote 2204:

Mr. Chairman: We now have a quorum. Vote 2204, items 1 and 2. Mr. Foulds.

An hon. member: Carried.

An hon. member: No.

Mr. J. F. Foulds (Port Arthur): I think I'll yield to my colleague, the member for Sudbury East.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): I have only four or five short topics, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to discuss.

Mr. Chairman: It'll be up to you two to work that out. Mr. Foulds is first on the list, followed by you.

Mr. Martel: Right, yes.

Mr. Foulds: No, I will yield to my colleague from Sudbury East.

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): Mr. Foulds goes to the end then.

Mr. Foulds: That's fine.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Spence will have to come in between you two then.

Mr. Martel: Well, I am not really all that long.

Mr. Chairman: Oh, I want the authority of the committee to conclude at 12:30 today.

Some hon. members: Agreed.

Mr. Foulds: 12:30?

Mr. Chairman: 12:30, yes.

Mr. Foulds: See how co-operative we are.

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): Yes, let the record show!

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, to the minister, in this follow-up on the accident rate at Inco, I have a growing concern there, as the minister knows, as a result of the recent exchange of correspondence on the accident rate. Just let me put four figures on the record. In 1970 there were approximately 19,000 hourly-rated men at Inco, and the total number of accidents reported to first aid was 17,212. There were 10 fatalities that year, and there were 2,167 compensable accidents. Now, that meant one in 8½ accidents was compensable, based on 19,000 employees. It was almost an accident per employee that year. In 1971, there were 16,178 accidents, six fatalities, and 2,027 of them were compensable.

In 1972 it dropped rather dramatically to 12,431 accidents reported to first aid. We have to remember, though, that by 1972 Inco had started to cut its staff back tremendously. There were still four fatal accidents, but unlike 1970, when roughly one in 8½ accidents necessitated compensation, this was down to one out of every six accidents. In other words, there were 2,157 compensable accidents then. In fact, there were only 10 fewer compensable accidents in 1972 than there were in 1970. And there were 5,000 fewer men.

In 1973, there were 10,987 accidents and three fatalities. But notice this—2,230 compensable accidents. In other words, almost one in five accidents reported was a loss-of-time accident. And we're talking from 1970 to 1973. In fact, with 5,000 fewer men in 1973, there were more compensable accidents in 1973 than there were in 1970.

That indicates to me that there's something rotten in the state of Denmark. One of the letters I received from the minister stated that this was because the men were demanding time off for even a scratch. Those weren't the exact words, but what in effect he was saying was that the men refused to go to work for lesser accidents. I suspect, and the reason I raise the matter is, Mr. Minister, as you know Colin Lambert has written a number of letters to you on this, expressing their concern that the accidents which are occurring are more severe. The reason for those

accidents is the new job enrichment programme that Inco has, which in fact sees a man doing, in many instances, the work of what two men were doing before, as they cut back their staff.

I think that has to be investigated, Mr. Minister, from that point of view. How severe are the accidents, what is accounting for the severity, and why are there more compensable accidents in 1973, with 5,000 fewer hourly rated employees, than there were in 1970, when you had 19,000 employees instead of 14,000? In fact, it was under 14,000 last year.

That indicates to me that safety has gone by the board in favour of a reduction in staff. That really bothers me and I think that should be investigated very thoroughly, Mr. Minister from that point of view, to determine what's causing the serious number of accidents. I would hope that the minister's staff could undertake that. I don't think in answer it can be said that more men don't want to work. I would appreciate the minister's comments.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, I think it is fair to say that this is a matter that we've discussed on previous occasions. This is one area in which I think we've all shown a great deal of concern.

I mentioned in our earlier discussions the record that we have in the Province of Ontario. One accident, of course, is one accident too many. But I would like to put on the record our record in the Province of Ontario as it compares to other provinces.

In the year 1972 in British Columbia they had 14,500 employees, they had 18 fatalities, the frequency per million man hours was 0.834, and the number of non-fatals was 79 with a frequency rate of 36. In Manitoba they had 8,496 employees, they had eight fatalities, a frequency per million man-hours of 0.48, and the number of non-fatals was 867, with a frequency of 52.

Ontario, with 48,047 employees in 1972, had 18 fatalities, which was the same as British Columbia and we had three times the number of employees. The frequency for a million man-hours is 0.20, which would be about nine times less than the province—oh, more than that — one-quarter of BC. The number of non-fatals is 3,368 for a frequency of 38.

Quebec, with an employee number of 8,630, eight fatalities, frequency per million man-hours, .46, the number of non-fatals 264, for a frequency of 15.2. The United States has 404,000 employees involved in the min-

ing industry, with 342 fatal accidents for a frequency per million man-hours of 0.42; and the number of non-fatals is 23,555 for a frequency of 28.72.

I think if you compare those, you will see that Ontario has a record that's right at the top of the list. Of course, I would even like to improve on it.

Getting back to the compensable accident; I think it is fair to say, as I pointed out in the letter to Mr. Lambert on Dec. 21, 1973, that the change of policy—there's a new policy; no light duty—and it's very difficult now to compare the light duty and medical aid lost-time accidents with previous years. That's the big problem.

Mr. Martel: They have got light duty now, Mr. Minister. That I think was broken by some action of the Workmen's Compensation Board. Whenever I had a man at Inco who couldn't get light duty. I would ask the Workmen's Compensation Board to immediately begin a rehabilitation programme, because Inco, being under schedule 2, pays the total cost. They found out it wasn't to their advantage to pay 50 or 60 men to be at school for retraining.

So what they did, was, with all the work that they were doling out to the private sector—such as cleaning all of their offices and looking after drives and so on—and with such a tremendous number of men being retrained, they quickly found that they could find light duty for these men. They are now doing all the office cleaning at nights in all of their operations. And that's great, because for the man who has had an industrial accident, it gets him back into the community that much sooner.

I think for him, personally, he is much better off this way than sitting at home with a pension—because I never ask for a pension, Mr. Minister, when I go before the board. I ask for retraining and rehabilitation; because I don't think to sit at home on a \$150 pension does him any good. I don't think it does his family any good. It's an inadequate amount to live on. But that's why that's changed, you see. They have been taking men on light duty.

I have a suspicion, Mr. Minister, there's a relationship to their job enrichment programme. And really what their job enrichment programme means is that you take a staff of 40 doing a specific job and you try to cut it down to 36 by juggling shifts. I think in one plant they have got five different shift schedules now, and they have been

able to reduce the number of men by something like six. I also think that when you reduce your work force from 19,000 to under 14,000 and your production is just as high, that something has got to give—and that's what the concern of the union is; and it's my concern.

You don't reduce the staff by 5,000 through attrition and layoffs and so on, and not replacing people who have taken their pensions. You can't possibly have the same efficiency in terms of safety with 5,000 fewer men and turn out the same production. Something has to be sacrificed somewhere along the line.

All I am asking is that it be investigated to determine if in the great reduction in men, safety is being sacrificed; if I can put it that way?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask Mr. Jewett, who is very knowledgeable on the questions that you raised, to give you a technical answer.

Mr. G. A. Jewett (Executive Director, Division of Mines): The concerns you raise are very definitely alive and real in my mind and the minds of my staff. The problem in accident statistics, exists world-wide, and not only in the jurisdictions of mines. I am told we have the same problem in industrial areas. It is how to get a constant and comparable set of data on non-fatal accidents. It is regrettable, but a fact, that the only constant valid statistic is that of fatalities; because a fatality is a statistic that is very clearly definable.

Mr. Foulds: It has a certain finality.

Mr. Jewett: Most definite finality.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Most definite finality is right.

Mr. Jewett: My engineers are aware of your concerns and are looking at this and other reasons—and we are constantly looking at these things. But we have not been able to identify any particular cause at this time for the change in statistics.

I believe that you are correct that there have been changes one way and back the other way. I think that there is a general agreement that it is better to have the man on the job being paid a full salary. We don't believe that the statistics are anywhere near as important as the welfare of the man. So there has been no real progress made in terms of getting a valid, comparable statistic at this date. But we are following it.

Mr. Martel: Maybe some of my colleagues don't realize the concern I have. But I live in the mining community, and I've been at functions they've held. It's really amazing if you get a whole group of miners together to see how many are incapacitated in some way or the other.

I was at a 25th anniversary ceremony for miners who were receiving plaques for 25 years' service in the mines. Almost every one of them was crippled to some degree. One man walked with a limp, or another almost carried an arm, or some were stooped over. There are a lot of accidents in mines and I have just a real feeling for those people; and that's why I continue to express my concern. I think the committee has to—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I might just mention to the hon. member that in 1973 the fatalities dropped to 15, and this is the lowest number since 1906. In 1906 we had about 5,000 employees in the mining industry and in that year we had 11 fatalities. So that we are heading in the right direction. But as I said earlier, even one accident or one fatality is still too much.

Mr. Martel: There are two other small points on safety. Private railroads of the mining companies; how do we get at them?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The what?

Mr. Martel: The private railroads. They have their own railroads that don't come under the federal—

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): The Ministry of Transportation.

Mr. Martel: —transportation authority. And it is a tremendously dangerous area. I worked in it when I was railroading. We used to call it the strawberry patch; it's Clara Belle. As you go down into Clara Belle, that's where the CPR and CNR take all of their cars for materials moving in and out of Falconbridge—whether it is sand, or so on. It doesn't fall under anyone's jurisdiction. We raised this three years ago when four men were killed at Inco in a year and a half, all under the little railroad.

Recently I had a man come to me who had spent 31 years on the CPR, with never a blemish on his record. He never once was disciplined by the company, superb fellow, 61 years old. He had gone into the strawberry patch—and those of us who worked there, particularly at night, went in there with great fear—because all the switches are left lying foul. In railroad parlance, in many

of the leads the cars are left foul. What that means is that if you come down a track and it is shaped like a "Y," almost, you reach a certain point that the car from the other track is hanging over. And that is what happened to this man. He was pulled right off a boxcar—and at age 61 he'll never work again.

What bothers me is that one good railroader could go in and set up a schedule for them and make them adhere to it; following the federal Department of Transport operating rules. They have no operating rules.

I haven't heard of a CNR man or a CPR man being torn off the side of a boxcar since I can remember when; because a man who would leave a car lying foul on the railroad would soon find himself looking for a new job. It is done constantly there; just constantly. We went up the other night just to look at it and there's half the switches lying red; which means the switches are not in the proper position. So this happens; and it's a tremendous fear of the men going in there.

My own community is a railroad community and it supplies all the workers for the CNR yard in Sudbury. They go in there and I talk to them—and they tell me it hasn't changed an iota.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think Mr. Jewett has made a good suggestion. This is an area we could look into, as to whose jurisdiction it really is.

Mr. Martel: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And we could report back to you on that aspect.

Mr. Martel: I'd appreciate that. As I say, this is a 61-year-old man who still has four children going to school. I have worked very carefully with the CPR and they are willing to give him his pension. I got the board to agree to give him an assessment right away and by July 15 he will have his long-term disability pension. You know, I had to go to Montreal to check it out with them.

But that isn't the point. The point is it is unsafe for everyone else. As the man says himself, he was fortunate to come out alive, coming down even at five or 10 miles an hour and getting caught between boxcars.

The other point, Mr. Minister—and I know that you have talked to Gib Gilchrist about this—is lighting. Are there efforts being made to improve the lighting underground?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will get Mr. Jewett to answer that question. He has been involved in it.

Mr. Jewett: I am aware of Mr. Gilchrist's comments and I am aware of other comments that were made in other jurisdictions. The answer is yes, all the time. We have some reason to believe that our standards in Ontario are high relative to anything else, but we don't believe that this is any reason why this matter isn't under constant attention and that improvements are possible.

Mr. Martel: Could you, Mr. Jewett, indicate if there has even been any study done which would indicate that when a man is underground, because of the type of lighting and so on, he is affected to some degree—his balance and so on? There is a suggestion amongst the miners that you do things underground they tell me that you would never do in daylight—say, in a room lit like this. You just wouldn't even consider it; you would be frightened. Yet underground, when you are there, there just seems to be a whole loss of the consciousness that you would have if you were on the surface. I am not sure if you follow me, but I am just wondering if anybody has ever undertaken a study to determine how much that poor lighting affects the individual who might be working underground.

Mr. Jewett: I don't personally have any knowledge of such a study. It's an interesting idea, one which I think would require some very careful work to establish repeatable conditions, if you will. As an individual, in my experience underground, I personally never found any difference in, if you will, appreciation or sensitivity to conditions around me because of the mine lighting, which I used at that time.

Mr. Foulds: Could I just interject for a minute? Isn't it the case—it may be folklore—that because the lighting underground is limited, if you like, a man can in fact be working beside a shaft that is several hundred feet deep and is not fully lit, and since the light doesn't penetrate to the bottom he is not conscious of the total danger that is facing him? He thinks he is only going to fall 10 or 12 ft because that's as far as he can see. Do you follow the image that I am trying to portray?

Mr. Jewett: You are saying that you have the same problem that you have perhaps driving at night with a set of headlights. You can't appreciate what's beyond the end of the beam of headlights.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, yes, precisely.

Mr. Jewett: I would think that is right, but I must point out that it is my understanding that all main travelways in our mines in Ontario, or all shaft areas, are well lighted. The area of concerns that I think we are talking about is the active working areas where you have blasting conditions all the time.

Mr. Foulds: Yes.

Mr. Jewett: Generally, in terms of lighting, main travel ways, shaft stations, crusher stations and these kinds of things, I think our performance is pretty good. But there is always an effort being made to develop more blast-resistant types of portable lighting, if you will; this is going on all the time. To be fair, I think the industry has a considerable incentive in this regard and recognizes that a man's productivity is related to his sense of security and the amount of lighting that is available.

Mr. Martel: I guess I had barely started teaching when all of a sudden it was decided that a third row of lighting should be put in the classroom, and a series of tests indicated that the improved lighting greatly increased the students' efficiency. Based on the same studies, one would suspect that the efficiency of underground work is greatly reduced; if you could base it on the same studies the efficiency would have to be low, because it has been proved all over that improved lighting leads to improved production.

I would like to make a couple of other small points, Mr. Minister. I was amazed some months ago when I listened to the statement made on behalf of the mining associations—I forget who made it; it might have been Powis; yes, Powis was in on it and Norman Wadge.

They talked about the inability to get men to go to mining areas—"lazy" was one of the terms used—and how they didn't want to work in mining communities. There was a great to-do about it; they were crying that they couldn't get people to go into mining areas, "National laziness" is what they called it.

I don't believe that, Mr. Minister. I think that if the mining industry wants employees, then I suspect the first thing that it is going to take is a rationalization of production.

I can well recall expressing tremendous concern in 1971—and I just use Inco as an example, because they are all the same—when Inco brought in workers by the thousands, literally by the thousands, and

increased their labour force to over 19,000 hourly rated men. By 1973 it was reduced to under 14,000.

We brought men in from the east coast, the west coast and southern Ontario at tremendous cost. In the municipality of Sudbury and the surrounding area we started to build new subdivisions and added to schools at a tremendous cost to the community. Then, when it served Inco's purpose, they started to lay off men. Last year alone, 3,000 workers left the Sudbury area, with the public purse picking up much of the cost because Canada Manpower was assisting to relocate these men. In fact, Canada Manpower helped to bring some of the men into the Sudbury area in the first place.

The public paid all along the line. The public paid for the sewers, the water, the new subdivisions, the additions to the schools. The public paid for it—not Inco. They brought in workers from all over, and when they were through with them they turfed them aside.

What do we have left? In the city of Sudbury there is a vacancy rate of 22 per cent in the apartment buildings. A bunch of new apartments went up, and those guys are going broke. Rents were driven sky high—and they are staying there. If everybody keeps his rent at the same level, you can't get around that—and they are still very high. And there are a bunch of disgruntled workers who perhaps sold their homes in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia or New Brunswick and came to Sudbury for two years then they were laid off. Now Inco is starting to hire again.

Until that stops, Mr. Minister—and I suspect that is going to be one of the advantages of the BC legislation regarding a surcharge on excess profit—I am convinced that if we based it over five years, if a mining company has no profit and then all of a sudden—just like Inco whose profits were faced with an excess profit tax, you would find that they would rationalize their production, the likes of which you have never seen. In other words, we get rid of the boom and bust economy.

At that point miners first and foremost, or people, don't want to go into mining. One only has to live in northern Ontario to see the endless numbers of ghost towns where the only person who lost anything was the worker. His equity in that community was his home. The mining companies wrote everything off to taxes and came out ahead of the ball game with profit. The guy who lost was the worker. He couldn't get rid of his home

so he left his whole equity as he moved on, or he gave it away.

You can't expect people to continue to go into the north if in fact the only investment the average man has at the end of a lifetime is his home, and at age 55 he is forced to leave that behind and move on to find another job. Until these mining companies, Mr. Minister, are forced to rationalize their production on a steady, growing development, no boom and bust—I don't think we can tolerate boom or bust; in my own instance it has cost our community a pile for Inco's boom and bust and it didn't cost dear old Inco a thing, except more profits—if the mining companies want workers, then in fact they are going to have to rationalize their production so that in fact we don't have boom or bust.

I think this ministry has a responsibility, if I might say so, to ensure that. You might, Mr. Minister, consider an excess profit tax. Personally, I wouldn't worry about an excess profit tax if we were the government. They wouldn't be around long enough, owning their mining companies, to worry about the taxation. We would own it all, lock, stock and barrel. But from your point of view I would ask this ministry at least to consider an excess profit tax with one of the main aims directed toward forcing a rationalization of production which is good for this province, which is good for the community where the mining is being carried on, and is good for the workers in the area.

Powis is the last man I would believe in Canada. He is the last of the robber barons. I guess it is in some of his mines that there aren't even pensions—not in the gold mines. Powis making all these wonderful statements—this responsible neanderthal from the second century making all of these wonderful statements about production and how the men are lazy! And with all he has taken, all his company has taken out of this, he doesn't even pay a pension, and this ministry has accepted him as being a very upstanding individual.

Mr. Foulds: Quit denigrating the second century.

Mr. Haggerty: Of course, he wouldn't receive any welfare assistance from the federal government, would he, Elie?

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, I'd just like your comment on that. Are you considering some type of legislation or some type of taxation which would in fact force, I say, rationalization of production?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, Mr. Chairman, I think it is fair to say that that is one area where we have expressed a considerable amount of concern to the industry. We certainly don't advocate or promote or like the boom and bust days of the mining industry. We have seen it happen in many areas.

In many instances, as we get new mines developing, we enter into some very serious discussions with them. We indicate to them that our policy within the ministry is, of course, to provide stable employment and sustained levels of employment over a long period of time or at least for the life of that particular mine. I think the two go hand in hand.

We have seen in the Sudbury area, as the member has correctly pointed out, boom and bust days. I can assure you that I have taken it upon myself to speak to that company and to express our dissatisfaction with that type of an operation. I am confident you are going to see a change in that direction.

With regard to taxation, I think it's fair to say the new graduated tax system we have will not encourage highgrade mining and they will not have that desire to move in to reap the benefits today and slack off tomorrow, so to speak, when the market goes down. I was reviewing the mineral policy objectives to which many of the provinces put their names about a year ago and the very first item of the goals and objectives is related to mineral development for social needs. I would like to put into the record what that is.

Mr. Martel: What page is that, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Page 20. It says:

Mineral resources contribute to social development through the creation of communities and employment opportunities. However, declining mineral areas cause social problems, particularly in single-enterprise communities. Mineral development strategies can be re-aligned to counter some of the dislocations and to provide a basis for improved self-sustained regional economic growth.

I think that's the direction we want to move in. These are our goals and these are our objectives and we are going in that direction.

Mr. Martel: I think Powis and company would find, with that type of rationalization, not nearly as much difficulty getting men who want to work

The other one, of course, and I think we came to that somewhat last night, is that safety conditions—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And wages, let's be honest.

Mr. Martel: Wages, yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's always a very attractive thing.

Mr. Martel: Yes, certainly. I am not discounting that but I am saying the things which militate against it right now are boom and bust and safety and so on.

One final question: Mr. Minister, I have been after you now for a good long time to have the Pits and Quarries Control Act encompass northern Ontario. The Sudbury area is being ravaged. You have letters from Don Collins, the regional chairman. I have written dozens of letters to you and to the Premier (Mr. Davis). We are being ravaged in the Sudbury area, Mr. Minister.

Can't you bring that to bear now or at least give it an effective date so that even if you haven't got the staff at present, the pits and quarries operators will know you mean business? From square 1, from here on in, they will at least say "We know that as of June 1 we are responsible and even though they haven't looked at us, when they do come in to look at us we are going to be nailed." Make it applicable and, as you get the staff to enforce it, fine but I think we should apply the Act now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, Mr. Chairman, some time ago I did announce we would apply the Pits and Quarries Control Act to all of southern Ontario and to the priority areas in northern Ontario; Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay being some of those areas. We have a presentation going to Management Board within the next few weeks requesting the additional complement—which is substantial—to assist us in moving in that direction.

If we are successful, we will be moving in that direction very quickly, of course, but it will depend on the complement. We have about 15 inspectors now operating in the 123 townships which are designated. We are coming to grips with the situation. I think the industry has finally realized we do mean business and they must rehabilitate.

I would have to admit it's difficult to have a retroactive piece of legislation where we can go back—

Mr. Martel: I'm not—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We can't do that but at least from square 1—

Mr. Martel: I am not suggesting you make it retroactive or attempt to. I am saying what I think you might consider doing is say, "Okay, we are going to make it applicable to northern Ontario and the rest of southern Ontario as of June 1. You people are responsible as of June 1; you know what the name of the game is from June 1 on. If I haven't got a complement of staff to look into it on June 1, I will probably have them by August but you are going to be responsible for anything you open up from June 1 on and you are going to be responsible for cleaning it up." I think the very fact that is there will be a deterrent.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Our experience has been that when you designate an area and the applications for approval come in, you have to have the complement to respond. To have one ahead of the other just causes complete and utter confusion. I don't think we could head out in one direction and follow it later with another. But we share your concern. I made the announcement some time ago; so we are dedicated in that direction.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Minister, on that very point: In southwestern Ontario when a township is designated, they have six months to get a licence, as I understand it. Are you considering any changes in regard to this Pits and Quarries Control Act?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I think I made a point when we brought in the legislation for the first time. This is a unique piece of legislation, because there is nowhere else we could go and examine other operations and look at other legislation. We were pioneering in the field of pit and quarry regulations and rehabilitation. I said at that time that we would be bringing in amendments to the Pits and Quarries Control Act at various intervals. I am hopeful that this fall we will have a number of amendments to put before you in the Legislature. It needs some tidying up.

Mr. Spence: In our part of the province, a township was designated under the Pits and Quarries Control Act, and they had six months, or until Feb. 15, to strip this land. In an area about a mile long they stripped about a couple of acres. Topsoil is piled up about 15 to 20 ft high. This Act seems to force them to strip the land; and it really is a concern to the public. Some people have called me up and said this reduces the value

of their property with all this topsoil piled up. I don't know how many years it will remain there. But there should be some changes so they won't strip acres and acres. It may be 10 years before they use it all up. It is an eyesore in many parts where there are gravel deposits.

I hope you come down to—you have likely seen this around Blenheim, where gravel is piled up 15 ft high all along the highway. They won't use all that gravel for years. I think I would like to see you make some changes so that they won't need to race to strip this land off, and pile it up; and which may not be used for 10 or 15 years. It is an eyesore to the homes around the area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would just like to comment on the aggregate potential in southern Ontario and in southwestern Ontario. We have just completed a very intensive study of the aggregate potential in the Hamilton and Toronto-centred region plan. I think it is fair to say that the amount of aggregate that we are using is of a crisis nature at this point in time. This applies to the amount that is presently available, and the way we are using up this land for other purposes; rather than removing the resource and then rehabilitating the land and putting it back to other uses. It is something we are going to have to consider very, very carefully if we want to continue building highways and building CN towers—this type of thing. I said to one member that he can look out the window at the tower and see his riding up there in it; because I am sure there is plenty of aggregate used in it. But it is a serious situation—the supply and demand.

Mr. Spence: But they are using the rich fruitland, too, Mr. Minister; and it is a concern.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right. But as you mentioned, we are going to improve our Act. We now have a rehabilitation bond of two cents a ton. We are going to increase that.

Mr. Haggerty: Is that sufficient, though?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, it is not. Some of them are using it, and they are dragging their heels a little bit. But we are going to increase that amount of deposit to make it so that it is attractive to rehabilitate on a regular basis. Now they rehabilitate once a year and bring it up to standard. But if we can increase the amount—

Mr. Haggerty: What about a surcharge tax on exported aggregate?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, we might have to look at that too. We have a number of different areas to encourage them and to force them to rehabilitate on an ongoing basis.

Mr. Haggerty: In the United States they put a ban on this type of operation. But for some unknown reasons we are developing pits and quarries in this area and exporting aggregate to the US.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Haggerty: There is one other matter. Does your ministry consult with the federal department at all on any matters concerning quarry operations, or what they plan in 10 years from now in an expansionary programme? Let's take, for example, the cut that went through the Welland Canal. There are plans that indicate that they want to put a new cut—perhaps they are looking at it—east of the city of Port Colborne out to the lake. I forget the name of the point there but it is just east of the easterly breakwall and probably the gap would be there. We have a quarry now operating right in that area—Port Colborne quarry. They are making quite a hole in the area.

Has your department at all consulted with the St. Lawrence Seaway to see if they are going to put this new channel through there? If they are going to put the new channel through there, and they have all the powers under any Canada Act there is so that they can put that new cut through there, why couldn't the lease be given to the Port Colborne quarries to cut that channel through there instead of destroying all of the other land around there? I think they are going to put the cut for the new canal through there. They could take that stone out of there, crush it and turn around and sell it.

It would be like killing two birds with one stone in a sense as there are some resources there that are going to come out eventually. We will have the cut for the canal there and it won't cost the taxpayers any money this way. There can almost be a savings there eventually in the long run provided you can get a commitment from the St. Lawrence Seaway that they are going to do this.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that up to this point in time there has not been that consultation. We have only been into the Pits and Quarries Act for a few years. Incidentally this report is available at the bookstore, where it is selling at \$25. It is that comprehensive. It is worth

\$25 and these summaries are worth \$1. That report leads to that and makes that type of a recommendation that there be that type of consultation so that we get the multiple use of the land.

Mr. Haggerty: There is perhaps more revenue generated from the pits and quarries than there is from the other types of mining industry in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I did have the figures for that and it is quite substantial, at least half of the yearly amount.

Mr. Spence: Mr. Minister, if I have been informed rightly, they are asking for a lot of gravel. They are tying up the gravel under this Act so the municipality has to pay more on account of granting a licence for this gravel in certain townships. We are quite concerned about it. I know it is likely in your study.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think, Mr. Spence, it is fair to say that there has been strong feeling against pits and quarries.

Mr. Spence: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That is because of the corporate image left by the industry itself. They are trying to rectify it and we are prodding them to do it. We are behind them on a regular basis to improve their image. With the Act that we have now they have to pull up their socks because the public will just not stand for it. The various municipalities have responded to that pressure from the local people. We need gravel but not in my backyard.

Mr. Spence: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Get it in somebody else's backyard. I don't want it around me but I need a road, I need a cement basement, I need a sidewalk but don't get the aggregate near me.

Mr. Spence: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: After looking at these studies and looking at the increased costs that will occur because of certain restrictive measures that they are taking, the municipal people will have a whole new look at this particular resource. I am hopeful that they will say, "This particular area has aggregate. Let's remove the aggregate. Let's rehabilitate the land to get the maximum use of that land and lower the cost of the aggregate which is increasing on a daily basis."

Mr. Spence: That's right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Foulds: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have just one item that I would like to talk about. I feel somewhat hesitant in joining in the debate at this point, in view of the thorough discussion that we have had over mining safety and over what I might call the cathartic moments yesterday, resulting in almost what one would call in religious terms a perfect act of contrition on the minister's part last night.

I do want to deal with one specific situation at the Griffith mine at Bruce Lake with regard to the safety difficulties the Steelworkers' local is having there.

I suppose I am like anybody else who has not worked in the mining industry. I was rather naive and I assumed that the purpose of the mine safety aspects of the Mining Act were to protect the miners. What has come across in these estimates is that it is not that at all. It certainly hasn't been at all, either through some fault in the legislation itself or in the implementation of it.

In listening to my colleagues, who are much more knowledgeable in this area than I am—my colleagues from Sudbury East, Cochrane South (Mr. Ferrier) and Nickel Belt (Mr. Laughren), and the member for Sudbury (Mr. Germa), who was a miner himself—and in talking to Mr. Gilchrist of the Steelworkers, what comes across to one is the incredible 19th-century attitude that we allow, both the mining companies and our economy, to dictate to the miners in this province still.

The conditions that have been revealed in these estimates are conditions that would have enraged a Charles Dickens 130 years ago. Perhaps we need some kind of journalism and some kind of creative talent like that today. We, as legislators, don't have that talent, but we try to bring it before this House in terms of statistics and with a kind of passion, if you like.

But what is happening is that corporations like Inco, Denison and Stelco, through Pickens and Mather, their managing agents at Ear Falls, and the economic system of the country, with the assistance of the ministry—not just the allowance but the assistance of the ministry—are killing men at Elliot Lake, deafening men in Sudbury and endangering the lives of men at Bruce Lake.

I am introducing the situation at Bruce Lake to indicate that the faults in the system and in the mining safety supervision of this

province are not isolated. The failure of your mining inspection branch is not confined to the Sudbury basin; it is not confined to underground operations; it is not confined to Elliot Lake—because you have at Bruce Lake an open-pit iron ore mine. And what you need to do when you are doing your review—and I hope you will include it in your statement—is to announce that there will be a toughening up of your inspection branch. They have got to have the will and the guts as well as the tools to take their duty seriously. The concern expressed by you and some of your staff is not enough. We need some action, and we will be looking for that action over the next few weeks.

I want to start explaining the situation at Bruce Lake by reading one brief quote from the official publication of the ministry, called the "Ontario Mineral Review, 1973." It describes the Griffith mine at Bruce Lake on page 35:

This open-pit mine, located 30 miles south of Red Lake, operated continuously during the year with the concentrator producing 4,300 tons of pellets daily.

Mining was started in the south pit in June and to the end of the year about 1,519,000 tons of ore and 1,073,000 tons of waste had been removed.

Long-range planning for the ultimate development of the north pit involved the construction of east and west mine dikes and the divider dike for a total advance of 3,840 ft. The north pit development also entails the removal by dredging of some 11.7 million cu yds of clay. Approximately 6,250,000 yds had been removed by the end of the year.

Mining is by standard open-pit methods. Daily production from the two pits averaged 14,600 long tons of ore and 17,600 long tons of waste rock.

I will just end there. It is interesting that standard open-pit methods are used. But what is involved in those standard open-pit methods at Bruce Lake?

When I talk to the men and to the safety steward at Bruce Lake, I have to wonder what are the responsibilities of the mining inspector. And wouldn't we say that it is of paramount importance to maintain the health and safety of the workers? Shouldn't that be the prime responsibility of the mining inspector? Surely we would say that's at least one of his major responsibilities?

Why is it that the mining inspector in Kenora, Mr. R. E. Murray, is not anxious to investigate union worker complaints about

safety violations by the management agents, Pickens and Mather, at the Stelco-owned Griffith mine? Why is it the mining inspector Mr. K. E. Murray said to union representatives on April 11, 1974, that he would charge the individuals—the miners, i.e., the workers—under the Mining Act, rather than the management, because of the circumstances and the violations?

Wouldn't the minister agree that approximately a little over 100 reported accidents from June to April 11, 1974, in a work force that ranges between 350 and 433, indicates that there is something profoundly wrong in terms of safety at that mine? Wouldn't the minister agree that a mining inspection in that mine, timed at 11½ minutes from beginning to end, by the mining inspector is totally inadequate?

There are three basic issues that arise out of the Bruce Lake mine. There was a wildcat strike there in 1969. Conditions that caused that strike still exist today, because the company has not lived up to the agreement that it made in 1969. What kind of concern can allow inaction for five years?

As a bit of side issue, in terms of the safety, what kind of collusion takes place when seven or eight workers from the Griffith mine, every day for several days, apply to Dickenson Mines nearby, who are advertising for workers for jobs, and are refused by the Dickenson mine? Now there is an economic question there. Dickenson Mines has a better economic payment. But how do companies get away with advertising—as my colleague from Sudbury East said, saying there is a laziness in the mining industry—then when miners who are qualified apply they are refused because they are already employed by another mine they are willing to quit?

I want to give you a bit of background about the safety conditions there. This is a letter of March 13, 1974, from Mr. Lorne Heard, who is the representative of the safety and health division of the United Steelworkers, who asked that a representative from your ministry be in attendance at a safety school in Ear Falls. It is a letter to Mr. H. F. R. Davis, director of the mines engineering branch. He says:

Dear Mr. Davis:

In your letter of May 20, 1974, you stated you would not be able to attend the school in Red Lake. You pointed out that you sent a copy of my letter to Mr. R. E. Murray, stating that it may be possible for him to attend the seminar.

I was very disappointed in the result of my endeavour to show our members that your branch is very interested in their problems, not only in understanding their responsibility under the Mining Act, but also the responsibility of the company here. I would point out to you that Mr. Murray didn't show up for the meeting nor did he contact me in any way. I should have been accorded that courtesy.

In dealing with the seminar and discussing the problems that came up in regard to the mines, their problems did not surprise me after the way Mr. Murray handled himself in regard to the seminar with me. I have told the class that in discussion I have had with you, my opinion is that you and the branch are differently interested in their safety.

In the discussions with the members who were at the school from the Griffith mine, it is their opinion that the situation has become critical there and they want their problems looked into.

I would appreciate hearing from you on my remarks.

I might say that I got a phone call, on Easter weekend I believe it was, from the union safety steward indicating that it was very likely, if something didn't happen within a very short period of time, you would be faced with another wildcat strike at Ear Falls. But here's the answer that Mr. Davis sent to Mr. Heard, which is dated March 20:

Dear Mr. Heard:

It is unfortunate that a representative of our branch was not able to attend your seminar at Red Lake. As you would know yourself, it is not always possible to arrange your time to be in a certain place at a certain time due to other commitments, etc. I do believe that wherever possible our staff have responded to the requests of the unions in all parts of the province to attend their seminars and conferences.

You mentioned that the members of the Griffith mine consider that the situation there has become critical. I am sure that if the problems are made known to Mr. Murray, he will investigate them.

Before I get into what happened when the union went to see Mr. Murray, I just want to read to you a list that the safety committee in the mine enumerated for me as items that were compiled by the workers during the wildcat strike in 1969. They were agreed upon by the company and are still outstanding.

Exhaust fumes in the shop are excessive. The dust conditions in the plant, tunnels and crusher are still unacceptable. Proper lunchroom for the plant and shop employees has not been instituted. In the event of unsafe working conditions the employee must be able to contact a union safety man immediately and no other employee will be allowed to proceed on this job or equipment until the condition is rectified. [It is a request they made in 1969; the company agreed to it but it is still not being carried out.] Filthy wet working conditions in plant and primary crusher. Manholes unsafe and cold, filthy and unhealthy, unfit to haul employees.

Catwalk to loadout bin is unsafe. Machinery and equipment being put back into operation without being properly repaired. One man working alone should not be allowed in certain areas. Lack of proper training for the job. All walls in pits should be scaled before men and equipment be allowed to work in these unsafe conditions. All power cable must be kept out of load or blast areas so drill could not be operated in load of blast area.

What in hell is wrong when these conditions are allowed to continue over a period of five years?

Where is, where has been, the mining inspection branch of your ministry? Why do we allow the mining inspection branch, or why have we allowed it, to defend management?

The following sections of the Mining Act were discussed with the mine inspector, R. E. Murray, in his Kenora office. [The date of this memo to me is April 23, 1974; I believe they are referring to the meeting of April 11.]

Section 169, subsection 15 and 16, violations:

1. Supervisors are instructing workers to operate vehicles which are in unsafe conditions;

2. Supervisors are refusing to give workers written instructions. Section 213, subsection 10, ventilation and dust control in the mine, not met adequately.

Section 214, subsection 1, 2, 4 and 6:

1. Not carried out in plant, shop, crusher and tunnels;

2. In summer, working on cranes by furnaces;

4. Too much dust in crusher; BC-1 tunnel; stacker; plant; too much smoke in shop, etc.

6. Air hose is still being used everywhere.

Section 230, subsection 2:

Vehicles come into shop to have horn repaired but are sent out into pit because too many trucks in shop and no time to make repair.

Subsections 5 and 7:

Problems are same as above.

Section 242, subsection 2:

Poor lighting at bottom of balling circuits, at wall fans, at inspection doors for furnace legs, etc.

Subsection 5:

Workers still being instructed to work on moving machinery such as conveyors.

Subsection 6:

Workers instructed to work on conveyor and told not to bother locking it out because another crew has a lock on it. [We will get to a specific case about that].

Section 250, subsection 2(b):

Loadout conveyor has no access for maintenance on north side.

Subsection 2(e):

Field crusher has no warning device on conveyors for startup.

Section 240, subsection 1:

Warning of abnormal conditions on trucks; presently there is no communication between drivers on problems with vehicles.

Section 285, subsection 2(b):

Painted ladders on property.

Okay. To continue:

Discussions held over the telephone on April 17, 1974, at 9:40 p.m. with Mr. Murray, inspector of mines. We asked Mr. Murray why the meeting between himself, the company and the union was called off. His answer is that Mr. J. D. Jeffries, Griffith Mine manager, stated that the union called off the meeting because the union wanted an NDP representative present. He was then asked by the union to exercise his authority and investigate the alleged Mining Act violations which had been reported to him. It was also requested that he call a meeting between himself, the company and the union to discuss these hazardous conditions under the Mining Act. However, Mr. Murray stated that he is refusing to call such a meeting and he said the union must do it.

Why must the union do it? Why must the union take the initiative in every single instance under this Act?

The following facts were also discussed:

1. The union sent representatives to discuss unsafe conditions at the mine with the inspector on April 11, 1974, to his office in Kenora, and a request was made that the inspector call a meeting at the mine.

2. Mr. Murray agreed to do so.

3. The union requested of the company enough notice before the meeting in order to contact Mr. Jim Foulds, MPP, as he requested to be there.

4. The company agreed to hold a meeting on April 17, 1974, at 3 p.m.

5. On April 17, 1974, at 9:30 a.m., the company denied permission for Mr. Jim Foulds, MPP, to attend.

6. The union agreed to carry on then with the meeting because this pertains to safety at a mine and no more time should be lost.

7. On the same date, the company notified the union that the company was breaking all lines of communication and no meeting would be held until the union members returned to work overtime.

It's amazing isn't it? We require and compel men to work overtime, over the 40 hours, in this country. And we call it a civilized province.

It want to mention four specific signed statements I have of unsafe working conditions by individual workers at the mine:

At 8 a.m. John Jorgensen, mechanic, and W. Brownrigg, welder, received instructions from foreman, Mr. Stiglich, to install a backstop on number 2 feedbelt. The foreman's statement was: "You won't have to use your safety lock because a new belt is being installed and the rubber men are splicing the belt, so you can be sure it is locked out."

They don't have that assurance. That is signed by Mr. Brownrigg.

Then there is safety department, statement 5, Neil Bumstead:

I was working on the tail end of the discharge conveyors, and there were several machines there, and Don Dow, Syl Stiglich and Fellcamp was there. Syl Stiglich decided that he needed a chain block for the job. So he put one up, but he just hooked it on the edge of the beam and while the weight was on it, it did fine. But when the weight was released, the hook fell off the edge and the chain block came down on the floor, dropped about seven feet and just missed three men, including himself.

This could have been a very serious accident and could have been avoided with the

proper supervision and attitude on the supervisor's part. I feel this should be investigated very thoroughly and he should be shown the proper way of doing it. Let somebody who does know how, do it according to the work safety.

I spoke to Mr. Fellcamp on this and I think he agrees, because he agreed with me that I was right.

That is signed by Mr. Neil Bumstead.

I have a statement by—I think the man's name is Roberts. I can't quite read the signature. It says:

At about 8:30 a.m. Friday, April 7, 1972, I was working at the top of the load-out building when Mr. Stiglich brought a crew up to the area. Two members of this crew shut off the Merrick scale conveyor and started to cut off the belt. I went to number 3 switchroom to lock out the circuit I was working on and noticed that the switch for the belt scale was still turned on. I switched it off and reported to my foreman. When I returned to the load-out, I asked one of the mechanics if he was aware that it was not locked out. He replied that he thought it had been locked out. His partner produced a lock and tag and one of them went to do the locking out. By this time the entire belt had been removed already from the conveyor. S. Stiglich was in the working area all of this time.

Here is another statement, Jan. 30, 1974.

At approximately 2:50 p.m., on Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1974, Mr. Stiglich was grinding some springs that were approximately 2½ inches long at the grinder in the electrical shop. At one point one of the springs became so hot he had to drop it, as he was handling them with bare hands. His hands and fingers also were too close to the grinder to be considered safe. One of the springs jammed and was thrown clear. It did not hit anyone. This does not seem to indicate that the supervisor involved is projecting the proper safety attitude toward the employees who are working under him, or those who observe him. No face shield was used.

This incident was witnessed by R. Henry, O. Mecke, [I believe it is] and W. E. MacDonald.

The grinder was also in an unsafe condition due to the following: the base plate was out, the stone was not bevelled.

I want to read into the record some specific cases of lost time accidents, in which W. Brownrigg, welder, received a leg injury

when a mechanical gate was mistakenly activated on April 4, 1974, at approximately 11 a.m. Present were Frank Hickli, Arnold Comrie, Warren Fisher, Syl Stiglich, Ken Isenor and Dave Genn, narrator:

W. Brownrigg was repairing the trip gate on the potted screen bypass system. He was working inside the chute with a cutting torch. During the course of making the repair, the gate was operated pneumatically on two occasions to determine if sufficient repair work had been performed to permit the gate to operate satisfactorily.

On the first trial the following steps were taken: W. Brownrigg requested the gate be operated to check its motion. He climbed to a safe location inside the chute from where he could observe its action. Syl Stiglich and Warren Fisher, foreman, had been observing the job from the walkway at point A. The sketch is here—point A is here; B, C, D.

S. Stiglich went to point D and turned on the air supply and returned to point A, while Fisher proceeded to point C to operate the control vale. He operated the the control vale several times but it was found that the gate required further repairs.

S. Stiglich turned off the air at the main valve, point D. W. Brownrigg went back into the chute, location B, to do some more cutting.

About 15 minutes later the gate was again activated according to the following sequence of events: S. Stiglich was observing the work from A; W. Fisher was watching at C, near the control valve; and Sam Armstrong, general foreman, was also at location C. Frank Hicklin, general foreman, arrived at location C at this time. S. Stiglich waved his hand to the persons waiting at location C. He spoke to them regarding the oxygen supply. The words spoken could not be heard due to the noise level, but the wave was interpreted by all three as a request to again activate the gate to check its action.

W. Fisher operated the control level, but realized that the main supply was turned off, so he proceeded to the supply valve at location D. Before he got there, the gate started to move and W. Brownrigg was caught by the left leg sustaining bruises and burns from the torch.

Cause of accident: Signals given by S. Stiglich were misinterpreted. The signals had not been prearranged. Air trapped in the line after the main valve was sufficient to activate the gate. There is approximately

50 ft. of 1 in. pipe between the main valve and the control valve.

There is no positive protection for the man working in the chute. The only safety device is a hand-operated air valve. As the job had taken longer than was anticipated, there was a considerable effort made to hurry the job along.

Recommendations:

1. Mechanical device be installed that will positively hold the gate in either the open or the closed position and will accept the standard safety lock.

2. That a safety contact be issued on making and following signals.

3. That this accident be discussed at safety meetings and used as a safety contact. Emphasis be given to the fact that haste greatly increases the frequency of accidents.

4. When more than one supervisor is in attendance, it should be clearly established which supervisor has full authority and responsibility for the job.

Similar investigation of accident causing injury to right arm of plant mechanic, April 1.

I won't read this one in detail; but it's a similar kind of thing. The supervising foreman was not carrying out his duties in checking to make sure equipment—in this case it was an idler—was operating correctly. They recommended that in this kind of area—at the pellet load-out conveyor—one other man should be in the area in the circumstances. No man should work alone when attempting to free the idlers.

I want to just relate—because I know the time is rushing on, and I don't want to prolong this unduly.

Mr. L. Maeck (Parry Sound): I consider that the understatement of the month.

Mr. Foulds: You may not consider this important. The miners at Bruce Lake consider it important.

Mr. Maeck: I consider it important, but I think we have heard it quite a few times.

Mr. Foulds: You haven't heard this. You haven't heard it in regards to an open pit mine. An open pit mine should be relatively safe to operate; they are not.

This is a report by George Podtepa, the union safety supervisor at Bruce Mine:

At approximately 10:30 a.m., R. Crowell, mechanic, approached M. Hazelwood,

steam jenny operator, to steam off a 75-ton Euclid. Mike told him it was too dangerous to use the steam jenny outside due to the weather conditions [it was Feb. 28] and also that he was wet and could not work outside.

Mike then saw S. Bessason, the mechanical foreman, coming toward them, and told R. Crowell to tell him the situation. After a brief discussion between those two, Steff Bessason approached Mike. Steff then told Mike, "You have five minutes to get out there and steam off that truck or I will get somebody else." Mike replied that he didn't have the clothes to work outside because his were wet; also this job outside was unsafe because of the steam and the slippery conditions. Mike then went to the steam room and carried on with his duties.

Approximately 15 minutes later, Bessason came up to Mike as he was transporting material to the steam room. He asked him if he would steam off the truck. Mike replied, "No, it is unsafe and my clothes are wet." Mike also told him that they had these 75-ton trucks for approximately one year and nothing had been done to bring them into the steam room where the job could be done in a safer manner. Bessason answered, "Yes, you know, and so do I, that the company hasn't done a damn thing about it. And if you don't steam off that truck, you might as well go home."

Mike then went to the steam room, took off his rubber suit and proceeded to the dry and met with N. Bumstead, the union safety and health committee man. Mike explained to Neil [that is, Mr. Bumstead] the conditions he was required to work under, and also mentioned that he was told to go home for refusing to jeopardize himself by committing an unsafe act.

Mike then dropped off his lunch box in the dry and went upstairs, hoping to discuss this matter with the company safety department. He checked W. Kleist, the safety inspector's office; however, he was not in. Then Mike went to Ken Isenor's office, the safety supervisor. When Mike entered he told Isenor that he was told to go home for not doing a job which he felt was unsafe.

As soon as Mike said this, then Bessason, his foreman, walked into the office and said, "I sent you home. You leave the premises. Also, you have no business up here." Mike then looked at Isenor, hoping for some support from the company safety

supervisor, but instead received a comment from Isenor, stating that, "If you foreman sent you home, you had better leave the property."

Hazelwood then left the office and went to the dry. Bessason followed him into the dry and told Mike, "If you don't leave the property, you will get escorted off the property by the securities. And you don't return unless you are notified to come back." Mike's reply was, "Don't be childish. Practise what you preach." Then he left.

1. The use of steam jenny under freezing temperatures obscures vision due to the steam.

2. There is no proper access or platform to work from. There are 75-ton Euclids, which are quite high, and one must traverse the beams to perform this job. Also ice buildup and grease makes it very slippery.

On Feb. 27, 1974, Mike was steam cleaning a 75-ton Euclid at the same location outside of the steam room while standing on the main frame. His vision was obscured and the frame was wet and slippery. He slipped and fortunately caught himself on the front wheel.

These conditions have been discussed at the safety contact meetings in the past without any results. This crew had safety contact meetings only once per month and not once per week as has been agreed on by the company.

Interestingly enough, Mike Hazelwood was called back to work after the uninjured pursued the incident. The union met with the company, and both parties investigated the site. The company acknowledged the fact that they were wrong. The reason I am reading this into the record is that this is the type of incident that is used in order to intimidate workers so that they will carry on working in unsafe jobs.

The most recent hazards concern electrical matters at the Bruce Mine, specifically the safety trips on No. 2 stock line feeder. It is corroborated by seven different workers:

To whom it may concern:

Being the shift electrician at the Griffith mine on April 9 from midnight to 8 a.m. on April 10, there was an unsafe condition left from the following shift, 4 p.m. to 12 midnight on April 9.

Arriving at my assigned shift on April 9, I was informed by the electrician I was relieving that everything was okay. There was no entry in the shift log book of any

trouble or jumpers, etc. Further to this, I made my regular round of visual checks. There was no sign of any trouble.

Upon arriving back at work on April 12, on the afternoon shift, 4 p.m. to midnight, I was informed of this hazard. [We will get into what that hazard was in a moment]. I immediately checked with the plant foreman about this condition. He then told me he was informed on April 9, graveyard shift, that the kick bar on the index still wasn't working properly, but not informed that they had been jumped out. This particular shift is in charge of the cleanup detail of the furnace area.

Therefore, we had a man working in and around that index, No. 2, all night, hosing and shovelling around a moving piece of machinery with no protection in any way. If he should have tripped or fallen, he could have been run over and killed or crippled for life. If an electrician would have done the same act, the company would have had him dismissed or reduced to a labourer, but seeing that supervisors have performed the act there is no action taken as it is done by management. The only answer you receive on something like this is, "lack of communication" and then it is dropped.

It is verified by a statement from the staff electrician. It is verified by the worker who was working around that No. 2 index conveyor. He said:

I had no knowledge that the index safety circuits were jumped out electrically. When I came on shift there were no ropes in the area.

It is also attested to by one of the other workers on the graveyard B crew.

The other thing I want to get into very briefly is that, for whatever reasons, the workers at the Bruce Mine feel the doctors in the area are deliberately being influenced by the company to assign them back to light work when they are not capable of doing light work. They used the phrase to me, "We are the walking wounded around here." One man—I can't find it right now—had his finger cut off. It was sewn on by the doctor. The next day he was back on light duty and he was given a job washing with Varsol and grease and so on, with a bandaged finger. That doesn't seem to me to be the kind of light duty we should be assigning people to in the mine.

I don't want to delay, as I said; I just want to sum up because what this whole

package indicates to me is that it is not just Elliot Lake, it is not just Inco. We are even having it in our own area of northwestern Ontario, in open pit mining. Safety in mining in the province has not been enforced, as we could do, to look after the men of this industry.

The unions work under unbelievable disadvantages in working under the Mining Act because in every contract they have to negotiate their safety conditions. Whether it is silicosis at Elliot Lake or hearing loss at Inco or general safety in the Griffith mine at Bruce Lake, there has been a lack of desire on the part of the mining inspectors to take initiatives to protect the miners.

There has been an excessive concern for the production of the companies involved. Production of the companies has been of paramount concern, not the safety of the workers. I share the anger of my colleagues when they outline the conditions at Elliot Lake. I share the anger of men we are crippling, deafening and killing—or this society is. They are sacrifices to the production of the companies.

This kind of condition would have outraged people in the 19th century in England. Miners in England today won't work under these conditions and, God help us, in North America, in Ontario, we are in the late 20th century, not the early 19th century in the industrial revolution. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, let me say I am very close to the situation to which the member refers. I think it is fair to say I have met on at least two or three occasions with the mine safety president, Mr. Sharp, I believe it is.

Mr. Foulds: He is the company mine safety person, not the union man.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Sharp?

Mr. Foulds: Is he?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Sharp is the president of the union and he is the—

Mr. Foulds: The president of the union? I thought it was Clare Westover.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He was. He lost the position at the last ballot. I have met him on at least two or three occasions and I might

say, for your information, that Mr. Sharp was an NDP candidate.

Mr. Foulds: Oman Sharp? He is not president any more.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Very active in politics, I must admit.

Mr. Foulds: This information doesn't come from him.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He is a likable fellow who puts a very, very strong case. Any case that he has brought to my attention we have acted on. I would say that some of the issues that you have related to us deal with the attitude between the workmen and the supervisor.

I think we all accept the fact that safety is a state of mind. It is an educational programme we have got to keep constantly working on. I don't know if we could have an inspector there at all times dealing with the problems that exist between the supervisor and the workmen. Certainly the charges you have made will be carefully investigated. I think some of them go back quite a period of time, if I recall. The man whose name you mentioned, Mr. Bumstead, is not there any more. He hasn't been there for some considerable time.

Mr. Foulds: He hasn't been there since the beginning of this year.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He operates a restaurant in Ear Falls, so he has been removed from the area.

Mr. Foulds: He signed some statements of incidents. The point is, of course, these incidents indicate that the conditions have not yet been cleared up.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In my experience—not that I am company-oriented, but Mr. Jeffries is a personal friend of mine and, in fact, we went to school together. After a couple of meetings with Mr. Sharp, I brought to Mr. Jeffries' attention the things that you have brought to my attention, and they were rectified. He was quite anxious to go along with that. To have these things of that long standing is something that I am going to ask my inspection branch to investigate, because I don't think they should be, if it is correct, but we will certainly take that in hand and follow it up.

Mr. Foulds: Just an interjection, Mr. Minister, the president of local 7020 is Dale

Westover now and George Podtepa is the safety committee chairman.

Items 1 and 2 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: We will reconvene Monday after the question period.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: What do we have left for Monday, may I ask?

Mr. Chairman: Forest management. There is one item left.

Mr. Foulds: Forestry, fish and fur, is it?

Mr. Chairman: No, commercial fish and fur was combined with fish and wildlife.

The committee adjourned at 12:30 o'clock, p.m.

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Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
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Monday, May 27, 1974

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 27, 1974

The committee met at 3:10 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES (continued)

On vote 2204:

Mr. Chairman: On vote 2204; item 3, forest management. Shall we go ahead?

Mr. E. M. Havrot (Timiskaming): Have we got a quorum?

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): Yes, there will be a quorum here, I am sure, in a minute.

Mr. Chairman: We will wait then.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, if the members are in agreement, we might go ahead and I will give them a few brief comments on the programme in forest management this year.

You will note it is up by about \$2,181,000. There is an increase in complement dealing with our timber production policy which we announced last year; this is our second year of that policy. There is an increase in complement of 37.

Just to give you a breakdown of the close to \$24 million total: Salaries and wages \$15,411,000; employee benefits \$1,075,000; transportation and communications \$729,000; services \$3,528,400; supplies and equipment \$2,975,500; acquisition and construction of physical assets \$100,000; transfer payments—that is grants to municipalities and conservation authorities—\$125,000; for a total of \$23,945,000.

The increase, of course, is in the timber production policy. Any questions, gentlemen?

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): You have a complement of what—an additional 37?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, there's an additional 37. The complement in this particular section right now, Mr. Haggerty, totals 798 people.

Mr. Haggerty: What type of personnel are they?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They are forest technicians; foresters, people directly related to forest management.

Mr. Haggerty: Directly related to forest management? How many students have you hired in the last year in this programme for which an additional 37 persons were hired? Graduate students, I should say.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Lockwood, who is the executive director of the timber branch, will reply.

Mr. J. W. Lockwood (Executive Director, Division of Forests): There were 12 foresters and 20 technicians.

Mr. Haggerty: Twenty technicians? They are all graduate students from the different colleges and universities?

Mr. Lockwood: Yes, they are.

Mr. Haggerty: Is there any consideration, perhaps, of hiring more?

Mr. Lockwood: Well we hire 10 a year in our forester training programme. This is due to normal attrition. So actually we hired the 10 foresters-in-training; plus 12 new foresters and 20 technicians in addition. In the year previous we hired 50; 12 new foresters and 38 technicians. That's in our first year under the forest production policy.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think you'll see we are putting a great deal of emphasis on this particular field, knowing the value of wood fibre and the demand that will be upon us in the year 2020. You'll recall that some time ago we revealed our timber policy, which was designed to make sure that we had—was it 9.1 million? It was 9.1 million cunits of timber available in the year 2020.

So we are looking that far ahead, and we think it's sound management. Of course you have to move that far ahead. Let's be honest, you have got to plant trees today if you want to reap benefits after a time.

Mr. Haggerty: I suppose this is the topic that perhaps the member for Thunder Bay

(Mr. Stokes) and I will be getting into, the reforestation programme in the Province of Ontario. Has your policy of increasing reforestation now developed to the extent that it is above the normal years that you've had in 1971 and 1972? Have you increased the number of acres?

Mr. Lockwood: This last year—and this is in straight regeneration, planting trees—we were seven per cent, in terms of acreage, below the previous year.

Mr. Haggerty: Well, why would you be below the previous year when it's such an important concern to all your programmes for reforestation? Why are you not keeping up the acreage for reforestation purposes? It's almost a complete failure on the part of your ministry to provide for continuing growth of forest industry production in Ontario.

Mr. Lockwood: I think—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Carry on, Mr. Lockwood; I defer to you.

Mr. Lockwood: On that seven per cent, I think we can expect fluctuations from year to year, some as much as 10 per cent, due to such things as weather and the fluctuations in the production within our nurseries. Another feature, probably more important, is the fact we are finding that physical costs of planting are pyramiding at a terrific rate. These operations are at present intensive; therefore we are looking for ways to get regeneration by means other than tree planting alone to reduce the costs of regeneration.

Mr. Haggerty: That still seems to be quite a reduction in reforestation. I can recall a few years ago, I guess, we were up around the Geraldton area, and we were looking at some of the new equipment they had for reseedling programmes. The lumber had been removed in that area, and looking at the equipment, I thought then that it wasn't going to do the job and perhaps we should be going back to the old hand method of planting the seedlings, that maybe they get a far better start. It may take longer, but again you are increasing employment in the area. The machine they had was some type of a cultivator, I guess, with a good-sized bulldozer in front pulling an apparatus that would spike up what little ground there was available. I didn't think it was doing the job.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Would you be referring to scarifying?

Mr. Haggerty: Scarifying I guess, yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, right.

Mr. Haggerty: How successful is that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's just part of a programme, an overall programme of readying the topsoil for planting purposes; opening it up and stirring it up to make it arable so it's more receptive.

Mr. Haggerty: How successful is it though? It didn't look to me as if you were going to do too much with it, because there wasn't much ground there, actually, to break up.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Maybe Mr. Lockwood could check his notes and—

Mr. Lockwood: I'm really hard pressed to say. First of all, what do you mean by success? We feel it is successful in relation to what we are trying to do.

Mr. Haggerty: You can't be successful if you are down in your reforestation programme.

Mr. Lockwood: I explained the—

Mr. Haggerty: I mean your reduction in acreage over the last year. You should, in fact, be increasing it by some 14 per cent to keep up with the future depletion of our forest growth.

Mr. Lockwood: Our goal, Mr. Haggerty, is to double the number of acres actually treated and regenerated by 1982.

Mr. Haggerty: By 1982?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think we should explain that to start up a regeneration or a silviculture programme, you just don't turn on the tap and get it going today. It takes time to get the nurseries established. As Mr. Lockwood has pointed out, by 1982 we hope to be doubling our output from the nurseries, which takes time to set up. This is the first movement in that field. It is in a 10-year programme.

Mr. Haggerty: But again, as I say, if perhaps you fall behind in that 10-year period, it will take you a number of years to catch up on the production of the forests, say in the year 2000. If you start planting now, those trees should be into production for the year 2000 shouldn't they? Thirty years is the silviculture regeneration period, isn't it?

How much input is there from private industry in this matter of reforestation; what do the companies provide in the way of reforestation? Do they go out and replant the woodlots too? How many acres?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Art, do you want to comment on that?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): You know, they don't do a damn thing unless they get paid for it.

Mr. A. J. Herridge (Assistant Deputy Minister, Resources and Recreation): Mr. Chairman, as Mr. Stokes has pointed out, the performance by the companies in this area is strictly as a contractor for the ministry, in which their men, equipment, camps, trucks, or what have you, will be retained and paid for by the ministry in accomplishing the regeneration work on a company's licence areas.

Mr. Haggerty: In other words you allow them to go in and rape the forests and actually put nothing back in unless they get paid for it. That's about the story of it, is it not? They are allowed to go in and remove all the timber they want and provide nothing in reforestation at all?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We pay them out-of-pocket expenses. This is basically what it amounts to.

Mr. Haggerty: You pay them? There is nothing that says they should be paying for a portion of the reforestation programme in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, this comes out of their dues. This is what they are really—

Mr. Haggerty: What are the dues for? The dues are for taking the wood in the first place, are they not? On a stumpage basis probably.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, and on top of that there is ground rental and fire protection. So that they pay three different ways—the stumpage rate, the ground rental and fire protection. This is where they pay in. Through our nursery system we pay them to assist us in the regeneration programme.

Mr. Haggerty: How many acres a year would they plant?

Mr. Lockwood: Seven companies have regeneration agreements with us on a hire basis. I do not have the figures for the acreage planted, but we can get them for you.

Mr. Haggerty: You wouldn't have them at all; just to know how much land they put back into the regeneration programme?

Mr. Lockwood: As I say, I can't quote the figures, I don't have them immediately available to me. We can get this. These are agreements with the seven companies which agreed

to plant a certain number of acres per year on a hire basis.

Mr. Haggerty: What is the total cost of the reforestation or regeneration programme for the Province of Ontario? How many millions of dollars?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The cost this year will be \$7,270,000.

Mr. Haggerty: Seven million dollars?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The figure is \$7,270,000.

Mr. Haggerty: For 1972 I have a figure of \$13 million. Was that what was spent in 1972—\$13 million?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I have \$6,760,000. If you add the stock production—that is the nursery cost—to that, in addition to the regeneration and the tending, you're up to about \$11 million.

Mr. Haggerty: It's \$11 million this year and \$13 million last year.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, \$11 million last year—

Mr. Haggerty: Last year?

Hon. Mr. Bernier:—and you're up to about \$11.5 million this year.

Mr. Haggerty: It's \$11.5 million this year then?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, \$11,270,000 to be exact.

Mr. Haggerty: What does the province receive in stumpage fees?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Roughly, last year about \$13 million I believe.

Mr. Stokes: It was \$12 million, increasing to \$24 million this year.

Mr. Haggerty: That's the new programme?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Here is the exact figure for last year. The actual 1973-1974 revenues for stumpage were \$14,819,980.

Mr. Stokes: That's not what the Treasurer (Mr. White) said.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, I think he said \$12 million or something. I think he gave that before we had these figures finalized.

Mr. Haggerty: I was interested, Mr. Chairman, in the "Forest Scene." There was an article—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think there's a good picture of the minister, in that one isn't there?

Mr. Haggerty: I don't see that; not on the front page anyway.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Turn it over.

Mr. Haggerty: May and June, 1974, and the article reads: "More Provincial Revenue Urged for Reforestation. Provincial governments spend only about 10 per cent of the revenue from forests on reforestation."

Mr. M. D. Seeley, chairman of the woodlands section of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, thought perhaps you should be increasing it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Herridge has the handle on this particular question. We discussed it within the ministry when we saw the report; and I might say it relates to the Hedlin Menzies report, which Mr. Seeley accepted as factual, although it's not quite that accurate.

Mr. Herridge: I think, Mr. Chairman, when Mr. Seeley says 10 per cent of what the province is getting, he includes all revenues coming to the province—including stumpage and the carrying charges on Crown licences, in addition to such things as, say gasoline tax, sales tax and other forms of revenue which accrue at the provincial level from timber operations. A great deal more than 10 per cent of our stumpage returns is going into our regeneration programme. He is talking about all provincial revenues from forest operating companies.

Mr. Haggerty: Last year, through you Mr. Chairman, I mentioned to the minister that I thought the cost of lumber in the Province of Ontario to persons constructing new homes was getting beyond the means of many persons to buy even a piece of lumber. I find the costs this year have skyrocketed further. The member for Thunder Bay, last year brought in a bill, an invoice concerning a purchase of siding I believe it was, and the cost was around \$422 or something like that. A markup of about—

Mr. Stokes: Four hundred and two dollars.

Mr. Haggerty: Four hundred and two dollars, plus the provincial sales tax on top of that.

Lumber has increased again this year. I suggested to the minister last year that I thought perhaps we should be establishing Ontario priorities first. I thought that some of the benefits of the natural resources in parti-

cular of the forest industry in Ontario—should be given back. Perhaps this could be done as a benefit to a person going out and constructing a new home through a reduced price in the cost of lumber. I suggested a two-price system—one for export and the other for consumers in Ontario purchasing lumber.

I think the minister in his reply last year said we are tied to a national market, if I can recall that. If that is so then Ontario remains in economic servitude to foreign interests. This is what you are telling me.

For a number of reasons I can't quite buy that. I think there are enough goods here in our forest industry in Ontario that for those who are going out and constructing a new home, with cost of a new home today, someplace along the line there must be some concessions given to those persons buying Ontario lumber. I just can't accept that we are going to base the cost of lumber on a foreign market, on what they are willing to pay in the United States. I think we must first establish our own priorities here in Ontario.

I throw that back to the minister. Hopefully he will give some consideration given to this matter.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think there is a feeling, Mr. Chairman, that the amount of lumber used in construction of the average home far exceeds what it actually is. The experts tell me that much less than 10 per cent of the total cost of that house goes into the actual cost of lumber. We are not looking at a big figure when you are building a home.

Again, I have to say that we compete on a national basis. We have to go as the market goes in B.C. They are the lumber producing province in Canada. Regardless of what we do in Ontario, they set the price.

Mr. Haggerty: I understand the price of lumber—I'm thinking of particularly around my area is based on what it is worth to the United States customer. It is controlled by American markets. It is not British Columbia but American markets.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I suppose that would be the same with all our resources, really. Look at any resource we produce in this country and we are in a world market situation. If they can get a higher price outside the country, be it zinc or be it nickel, or even be it gold now, then it goes to that market. That's what sets the market, the international price.

Mr. Havrot: Mr. Chairman, this is what created the sudden upsurge in the price of lumber last year, as I understand. It was the

tremendous demand by the Japanese market on British Columbia production. As you pointed out earlier, the British Columbia market controls the lumber market in Canada and regulates the price. The tremendous pressure applied by Japanese buyers on British Columbia lumber just skyrocketed the price of lumber in Ontario, because they dried up the lumber coming out from British Columbia into Ontario.

Mr. Haggerty: But a large portion of that based upon Japan's marketing needs.

Mr. Stokes: All you are saying is that they should be allowed to charge all that the traffic will bear.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, that's about what it amounts to.

Mr. Havrot: It is not a point of allowing what the traffic will bear, it is just what there is in stock in lumber; and the influence of supply and demand.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have a very competitive situation here you know.

Mr. Haggerty: It is competitive, but how much of this—

An hon. member: It is going down.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Very recently we've seen the price of two-by-four studs drop to \$92 a thousand from \$145.

Mr. Stokes: The cost of lumber to the consumer in the Province of Ontario should be associated with the cost of production plus a fair return.

An hon. member: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: On a broad basis, yes, right across.

Mr. Haggerty: You see, when you are talking about export of lumber in British Columbia, much of that is sent to Japan in the raw state. It is sent over there as logs. If you go to a lumber yard or a building supplier here in Ontario and you want to buy plywood, about 90 per cent of it is produced in Japan. In other words, we are shipping much of our raw material over there and it comes back as a finished product and we are paying dearly for it.

Mr. Havrot: I disagree with that.

Mr. Haggerty: Well you can buy mahogany—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think your figure, your 90 per cent figure, is a little exaggerated.

Mr. Haggerty: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Your 90 per cent figure is exaggerated.

Mr. Haggerty: Well have you figures there—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't have the figures, but I know the number of plants that have been opened up in the last year or two in Ontario and across Canada.

Mr. Haggerty: I know there have been some.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: And you know that for the flakeboard and fibreboard plants the market is here in the Province of Ontario; it is being sold here in the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Haggerty: Do you know the price of plywood today, what it's worth a sheet?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mind you, it's not that I am defending the lumber industry, but it's certainly tied—

Mr. Haggerty: It's tied to the world market.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's tied to the world market. This is a very competitive type of business. The price fluctuates fantastically with supply and demand.

Mr. Stokes: How can you say there's a surplus of lumber in the Province of Ontario, generally speaking, when the province is a net importer of lumber?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I didn't say there was a surplus of lumber, but I can tell you that when all the flakeboard and the particle-board plants come on stream, I have certain reservations that there is going to be a glut of that particular product on the Ontario market.

Mr. Haggerty: Then the price of lumber will come down?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It could well be.

Mr. Haggerty: But if they are allowed to export, then the price is going to be up because of the bigger demand for the lumber to manufacture the materials here. If you haven't got the supply here, then you pay dearly for it, there is no doubt about it. They say we just haven't got it, and as soon as they remove some of the surplus from the market the price goes up.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You will have an opportunity—

Mr. Haggerty: I think there is some price-fixing on building materials in Ontario, and in particular in the lumbering industry.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You will have an opportunity to express that opinion for stronger controls on July 8.

Mr. J. P. Spence (Kent): Mr. Chairman, I have a question here. A lot of farmers have five or 10 acres of bush to market. They only market, or have the opportunity of marketing or selling their wood off once in a lifetime. Of course, they are not familiar with the value of the wood that they have.

As I understand what they were telling me, you have a district forester or some official from your department who will go out and make a valuation of the woodlot and inform the land owner what the value is. What kind of a programme do you have; and do they have to pay for this?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will ask Mr. Lockwood to elaborate further, but I would just like to inform the members that dealing with this type of an operation is very interesting indeed. In fact there was one walnut tree which we assisted in evaluating for the individual farm owner, and it was placed up for public auction. That one tree sold for \$7,500. That gives you an idea of the value of that particular species.

Mr. Spence: That's just what I was wondering.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes; we do provide a service to those farmers, but I don't know about the cost. Maybe you could elaborate on that.

Mr. Lockwood: We provide this service, as an extension service to private land owners, free of charge. If they want to call our office, our foresters will go out and give them whatever advice they are capable of giving in terms of what their products are worth, how they might cut their woodlot and so forth, who are the potential buyers and where to saw it.

Mr. Spence: Is this wood put up for auction or what?

Mr. Lockwood: No, it is entirely up to the owner of how he gets rid of it.

Mr. Spence: But can he do it that way?

Mr. Lockwood: He can do it that way if he so wishes. Our people just provide advice.

Mr. Spence: And they have the figures on the value for that year, is that right?

Mr. Lockwood: Yes, our men can give him an indication of the going market prices and so on, what he might expect to get in a fair market.

Mr. Spence: I commend you on that, because a lot of farmers sell their wood off for a lot less than they should.

An hon. member: Speak into the mike.

Mr. Spence: I am sorry.

I commend the minister for this programme, because a lot of the land owners don't know the value of the different kinds of wood. They are taken for a ride many times; I think your programme should be advertised so that the land owners are informed that this programme is available to them if they wish to use it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I was most impressed. I was down in southwestern Ontario about three weeks ago and had a meeting with some local people, some farmers, who were complaining to me about wood poachers. Now, I had never heard of wood poachers in northern Ontario, but apparently people go along the back 40 and steal one of the guy's favourite trees and saw it up and haul it out. It's a whole new problem we have.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: I want to ask the minister: I don't know if there is any truth to this or not, but I understand there's a new process in bringing poplar trees into cultivation, say from about 15 years to three years. Is there any such programme?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we've been—

Mr. Haggerty: What kind of a sex stimulant do you use?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we were looking at it last year in the Kemptville area. This is a hybrid type of poplar that's been developed in our nurseries. I was most impressed to see three-year-old poplar trees which must have been four or five inches across. They tell me that in 10 or 12 years they will be suitable for cutting for pulpwood.

It's only on an experimental basis. I think we've moved some into northern Ontario this year to try it in that climate.

Mr. Haggerty: In other words, you're telling me it takes 15 years for a tree to mature and you'll do it in three years, is that it? Three years or four years?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, no. It usually takes anywhere up to 50 years to mature. We're trying to get it done somewhere around 15 years.

Mr. Haggerty: Fifteen, oh. Maybe that's the figure I have here.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It was quite a thing to see, really it was; and to realize they were only that old. How successful they will be and how the fibre will react to the pulp operation is something we don't know yet.

Mr. Haggerty: To go back to my question that there is perhaps a shortage of lumber and a shortage of paper products in the Province of Ontario, how forceful is your ministry in the recycling of waste paper and in reclamation of waste paper? Could not much of this waste paper that's being dumped by the wayside and into municipal disposal areas be used for recycling purposes, perhaps even to bring about an increase in the mills themselves?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, a policy statement was issued by my colleague, the Minister of Government Services (Mr. Snow), when he announced one or two years ago that the government of Ontario would get involved in using recycled paper. A considerable amount of the paper that you now use every day is recycled paper.

Mr. Haggerty: I imagine much of it can be used for building purposes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are promoting it, yes.

Mr. Haggerty: Wallboard, I guess is what you call it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's getting to be a very profitable business now, with the price of newsprint and that type of paper up to about \$225 a ton. This paper is becoming very valuable and we're seeing more municipalities and more people doing this type of collection. And of course we have one or two major recycling plants in Toronto.

Mr. Herridge: One in Toronto and one over in the Thorold area.

Mr. Haggerty: There is a large plant in Thorold. I guess they deal with beaver board which is used as a building product. It's a pretty good product. I thought perhaps there should be more recycling here in the paper industry in Ontario. Perhaps we can take a look at ensuring we've got a good forest programme in Ontario with the use of the recycling methods.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I know one particular garbage collector in the London area—and he's just a small garbage collector—who says it pays him to put a man on to separate the cardboard and the corrugated board from the rest of the refuse he picks up and sell it.

Mr. Haggerty: You can see it down here on the streets of Toronto where they have cardboard tied in bundles. I guess there must be a pickup for it. It must be a paying proposition, so I thought we should go in and give our forests another four or five years for growth to full maturity instead of cutting down those trees; maybe more recycling is needed. Of course it would create employment in the area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We agree with you 100 per cent. We support that programme.

Mr. Haggerty: That's about all I have, Mr. Chairman. There are other things, but I'll let the member for Thunder Bay get into this now and we'll go into the details of expenditures in 1972 and 1973. I have some questions on that I want cleared up.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: These are the estimates for 1973-1974, not the expenditures of those years.

Mr. Haggerty: Perhaps, then, I should ask you the questions here.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think that should be properly taken up with public accounts.

Mr. Haggerty: But then they'll tell me I can get the explanation from your ministry. Such items as Beaver Lumber Co. Ltd., \$79,867; or Abitibi Paper Co., \$502,090. What does this amount of money cover?

Mr. Chairman: In all fairness, I think we will be discussing that in public accounts. Do we need to go all over it again here?

Mr. Haggerty: I think we're dealing with this ministry, so I think we should have some explanation here. Some of them are pretty heavy expenditures. You sit back and you look at half a million dollars, and say: "What's this for?"

Mr. Chairman: Don't you think we'll have a chance to go over it in detail in public accounts?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We don't have that information here, quite frankly. These are expenditures already made and here we're examining the estimates for this coming fiscal year. It is two different things entirely.

Mr. Chairman: I think in all fairness we should leave that for public accounts.

Mr. Haggerty: I think it's time to question the public accounts, Ministry of Natural Resources, 1972-1973.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would be glad to answer those type of questions if you want to put them on the record.

Mr. Haggerty: I think there should be an answer to them. There are others here; \$108,425 for Hoey and MacMillan Ltd.

Mr. Chairman: In view of the fact the minister hasn't got that with him and it will be coming up in public accounts, we'll leave it be.

Mr. Haggerty: Kimberly-Clark, \$63,000.

An hon. member: I don't know what the expenditure is.

Mr. Haggerty: Maybe you can give me the answer for it.

Mr. Havrot: What?

Mr. Haggerty: Is it going for a Tory campaign?

Mr. Havrot: All the time.

An hon. member: Give us an answer then.

Interjections by hon. members:

Mr. Chairman: You'll have your chance to bring it up in public accounts.

Mr. Haggerty: I think there should be a response here. We're dealing with the estimates here and these are expenditures. I think we're entitled to some of these answers without going into another committee.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Haggerty: If you haven't got the answers, okay; we'll try to get them some other way.

Mr. Havrot: You will get a chance to question it in public accounts.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Stokes.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I have been dealing very closely with the activities of this ministry, formerly the Department of Lands and Forests, for 6½ years now and I don't consider myself to be a person who is hypercritical. I have been told I was a little naive, and as a result of my research during the intervening months since

we last had a detailed discussion about these estimates, I've come to the conclusion I have been the victim of the biggest con game ever perpetrated by a minister or a ministry in the matter of forest management in the Province of Ontario, or the lack of a forest management policy.

I have accepted, at face value, everything representatives of this ministry and the former Department of Lands and Forests told me. I have gone out of my way to be as knowledgeable as I possibly can about forest policy to the extent I know most of the forest managers associated with the industry on a first name basis. It was really disillusioning for me, for the last six to eight months, to find out I had really been conned. That might sound like pretty strong language coming from a person who felt he had a pretty good idea of forest management and what it involved in the Province of Ontario, particularly northern Ontario.

I want to start out by saying that my first undertaking was to go through the Brodie report, which I discussed in great detail. Having brought this to the attention of your predecessor, with the many recommendations contained therein, I was given assurances by the former minister that most of the recommendations contained in the Brodie report had either been accomplished or were in the process of being acted upon.

Then we had the Hedlin Menzies report, referred to a little earlier here, which came to almost the same conclusion. The deputy minister made the remark that some of the quotations from that report were out of context and, therefore some of the statements made by an official of Great Lakes Paper were unjustified.

Then we got the report of the Ontario Economic Council, which also placed emphasis on what must be done to bring our forest resources into the 20th century and to embark on a plan of proper forest management.

The minister, in his statement last year, assured this committee that as a result of a review of all those studies his ministry was embarking on a long-range programme of reforestation, silviculture and managing our forests in a way that the industry and the people in the province who depend upon the industry would be assured a constant supply of timber and wood fibre to maintain our position in world markets and provide for demands resulting from a doubling of the need for fibre by way of lumber, plywood and pulp and paper by the year 1980 to 1985, and a quadrupling of the world demand somewhere around the year 2000.

The minister made the commitment that we will be placing maximum priority on the forest management branch of this ministry and that we could expect great things by way of catching up; not only by way of reforestation to maintain the cut-over areas on a continuing basis but to catch up on the backlog which was some 20 years ahead of us.

The minister has now admitted that he is only spending \$2.1 million more this year than was allocated for forest management last year. It was really disconcerting to me to find that some of the facts I was being fed in many instances were from 10 to 20 years out-of-date.

The foresters and the forestry technicians you have in the employ of the ministry at the present time number 798, an increase of 37 over last year, and 10 of those were due to normal attrition. Wherever I go throughout northern Ontario, when I ask an employee of the forestry branch of this ministry for an inventory on a particular licence or on a particular Crown management unit, what the volume of timber is in each of the species, what the sustained yield is, what the allowable cut is and what the age classes are, I can't get the answer. This isn't an isolated instance. This is the kind of response I get almost invariably. There are one or two instances where I have been able to get some kind of a definitive answer.

In one instance, when I asked what the allowable cut was on a particular prime licence, I got a figure of 450,000 cords of mature or over-mature timber from an official of the ministry. I go to the prime licence holder and he says: "Well, we've got that under review at the present time. We really haven't reached a decision as to whether or not a particular undertaking would be viable until we have more knowledge of the stands of various species, the age classes and how accessible they are—how much it's going to cost to provide road access into those areas."

I'm talking of areas that have been under licence to a company for up to 35 years, Mr. Minister. They can't tell me, with any degree of accuracy, what is on those limits. And I am told that officials of your ministry rely on the cruising and the inventory that is taken by foresters employed by a particular company.

The only kind of scrutiny that your ministry has over those prime licences is when they submit a management plan to your ministry. That is, they say: "We are going into a particular area and we want to harvest so many thousand cords or so many cunits

of wood in a given year." They submit this to your ministry, and your officials give it whatever kind of review they normally do. That's the degree of inventory that is undertaken by the industry and by your ministry at the present time.

Now let me give you an example: There is one prime licence holder in northern Ontario, and I have been led to believe by officials of your ministry that the allowable cut—I'm talking about the total allowable cut, and I suspect it's of all species—on an annual basis, on a sustained yield basis, was 600,000 cords. They are presently harvesting—let me be liberal in my estimate—about 150,000 cords.

A lot of people who are looking for greater utilization and who are trying to get into the industry to make use of this allowable cut, have a legitimate question to ask. That is what is happening to the other 450,000 cords that everybody admitted was the allowable cut on those limits? Nobody can tell me.

When you back the industry against the wall, they say: "Well, those figures are away out of date; they are so far from being accurate that they are not even worthwhile mentioning." And yet for five years officials in this branch have allowed me to use these figures here, in speaking to graduating classes of professional foresters, and in speaking to the Ontario Professional Foresters' Association at the Inn on the Park last fall. And nobody questioned them.

Mr. Haggerty: You have done a good job for them, Jack.

Mr. Stokes: You know, they say, "Okay, if these are the figures you want to see, you go ahead and use them."

Those were the figures I was fed. And yet Andy Fleming, who is the vice-president of woodlands for that particular company, comes down to you, cap in hand, and says: "We've got \$90 million to spend on an expansion of our pulp and paper facilities and we want an assured supply of wood." Keep in mind that this is a company that had major limits, supposedly with an unused allowable cut of 450,000 cords a year. Now they make the pitch to your ministry, saying: "Well, we are not even talking about the unused allowable cut on our own limits. We want an assurance from you, Mr. Minister, and from your ministry, that we can have an assured supply of the residue from other operations such as chips, shavings, sawdust and whatever, so they can make up the deficit in wood fibre to sustain an increase in production

representing an expenditure of about \$90 million.

Now I know what went on there, Mr. Chairman, and the minister is familiar with it too. I am wondering why the minister didn't say to that company: "You go back and take a look at your limit and you tell me whether there isn't sufficient timber on that limit, a part or all of the 450,000 cords that I'm speaking of."

I am not naive enough to think that it is all of prime fibre. I'm not suggesting for one minute that it is the black spruce used in newsprint production to the extent that they can have it. But surely when we're talking about expansions that represent an expenditure in excess of a quarter of a billion dollars in the Dryden-Ear Falls-Red Lake area; when we're talking about an expansion of \$120 million by Great Lakes in Thunder Bay using wood fibre from as far as 200 miles away; when we're talking about quite a significant expansion in the use of heretofore untapped stands, we are talking about a substantial amount of wood.

The amount of additional wood fibre that would have been required to sustain an expansion of one company by \$90 million is substantial, but it's relatively insignificant in the overall scheme of things. We are talking about other expansions across the province, particularly in northern Ontario, and I'm not going to let your cat out of the bag.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You did already.

Mr. Stokes: No I didn't.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You were close.

Mr. Stokes: All I am saying is that it ill behooves you people to sit idly by and allow the vice-president of the woodlands division of a major wood-using company in Ontario to stand up before an audience in Thunder Bay and say: "Our real concern is a shortage of wood fibre and we regret that we have to announce that we can't go forward with an expansion because of our inability to come to terms with suppliers of residue, and we can't come up with some kind of an agreement with the timber branch of the Ministry of Natural Resources for additional fibre from the Crown management unit."

I don't know why I'm called on to explain what's going on in the Ministry of Natural Resources; to explain the kind of management that we hear about and that we're really not getting. I think you people have to come clean, because if you can't convince me that you're doing a good job, how are you going to convince a lot of people who may be

less knowledgeable and who are wondering just how this valuable resource is being husbanded and managed? I really feel I have been conned over the last five to six years.

I want to know why, among these 798 in your complement—I don't know how many of those are professional foresters as opposed to forestry technicians—there couldn't be more accuracy. When I talk to foresters in the industry and ask: "Why haven't you got a much more accurate inventory on your own limits?", they'll say: "Well, really, a lot of the timber on our limits is inaccessible; and then there are our conventional methods of harvesting." It is usually the Koehring method, because that's where they get maximum production for the least number of dollars.

They have discounted literally hundreds of thousands of trees of prime timber. I can take you into areas of northern Ontario where the timber growth is very slow. Notwithstanding that, I can show you where there is timber 120, 140 and in some cases 150 years old, just because we've allowed many of the prime licence holders to highgrade their limits. That isn't proper forest management.

I suggest to you if a prime licence holder isn't prepared to manage those limits properly and these values are being lost to the economy of the Province of Ontario they should be taken away.

Surely to goodness, with a complement of 798 people in this branch, we can come much closer to the truth with regard to allowable cut, inventory of whatever species there are, what the age classes are and how much fibre is available, of whatever species and for whatever use. I am convinced that we down here at Queen's Park who are responsible for proper forest management don't even know at this point in time what end is up.

In accompanying the minister to Upsala for the opening of a mill that was constructed by Inwood Forest Products, the minister made reference to the fact that it wasn't more than four or five years ago that we were using only about 43, 45 or 50 per cent of the allowable cut in the Province of Ontario.

At one time it was about 50 per cent of the coniferous stands and 10 to 15 per cent of the hardwood stands, that is, poplar and birch. Now, the conventional wisdom is that with all this expansion we've been talking about we're close to 90 per cent. I don't know what the figure is, and I really don't think the ministry knows what the figure is. I don't know how much elbow room we've got for further expansion, and I don't think the ministry does either.

As a result of a guarantee given to MacMillan Bloedel to construct a wood-using facility in Paipoonge township just outside of Thunder Bay, somebody in this ministry issued a directive. I don't know who it was; but having attended a meeting in Thunder Bay, the independent timber operators were issued a directive that all of the timber from the poplar and birch species on the Crown management units surrounding the city of Thunder Bay was to be taken to MacMillan Bloedel. I'm told that when they get into full production their requirements are going to be in the neighbourhood of 275,000 cords a year. Somebody at the district level assured those people over a year ago that those amounts would be available to them with no problem at all. Subsequent to that, the directive went out to some 200 independent contractors who were using that Crown management unit that they must direct all of their timber at no agreed price to this one particular user.

Concurrent with that was a directive that went out to a prime licence holder that his crews would have to get off the Crown management unit and go back to their own limits for some 50,000 to 55,000 cords of those species. Obviously, if that is the case, Mr. Minister, it is a very clear admission by this ministry that those amounts in that particular species were going unused on that private licence on an annual basis.

And I don't consider that good forest management. I don't consider that to be full utilization. I think it's a damnable waste; because your predecessor, when making reference to the impact the forest industry has on the Province of Ontario, made a great deal to do over the fact that for every cunit of wood—that's every 100 cubic feet of wood—that was produced in the Province of Ontario, over \$100 of new wealth was created in the economy. Now, the figure they are using is about \$120.

If we are allowing those kind of values to go unused, of whatever species, either on land held by prime licence holders or on land which is referred to as Crown management units, we are allowing literally tens of millions of dollars of good wood, mature wood, to go to waste every year. Because once it is overmature, the percentage of decadence in a particular stand is of a degree that it's no longer of any use.

And that is the case, I am told by foresters associated with your ministry and by foresters associated with the industry. We get a clear admission now that there might have been at one time anywhere from four to five million

cords on a particular block, or in a particular area that's under licence to a prime licence holder. But because of their unwillingness or inability to harvest those stands when they reach maturity, those values have been lost to the economy of northwestern Ontario. As a result, those dollars that were spoken of in the Hedlin Menzies report—either in direct benefit by way of wages, by way of equipment purchase, by way of supplies—all of those values have been lost to the entire economy of the Province of Ontario.

Consider that the last figures I have for wood utilization by all the users in the province—and the last figures I have are for 1972, although I'm sure the branch can update those figures—but the last figures I have are that we harvested 4.4 million cunits of all species in 1972. Yet it was generally considered that the values available on a sustained yield basis—and there again I'm using those same figures that I think really are a farce—maybe 10 million or maybe 12 million if the minister's figures are correct, that we are up to 90 per cent.

I don't know where we are going. The last figures are that on a sustained yield basis we could cut up to 9.1 million cunits. The last figures I have, for 1972, were 4.4 million cunits harvested.

Where are we going? We've got a \$250 million expansion in the Dryden-Ear Falls area. We've got \$120 million expansion in Thunder Bay by Great Lakes. We've got several other small expansions; and if we are going to allow values to overmature and fall down now—and when you consider it takes anywhere from 50 years to 120 years, depending on the soil conditions, the climate and the species to grow a tree—I'm wondering where we are going to be by the year 2020, which is a date the minister looks forward to and for which he says we must be planning now.

I submit to you, Mr. Minister, and to you, Mr. Herridge, and to you, Mr. Lockwood, that we are not going to have those values, notwithstanding the fact that there are, I won't say millions of cords but surely hundreds of thousands of cords going unused at the present time. There is no assurance we are going to have those values to rely on to keep these mills going if you are going to allow these values to overmature, fall down and be lost to the economy while we are allowing prime licence holders to go in and cut immature stands that are anywhere from 50, 60 to 70 years old.

In many areas in the boreal forest, even though there are 60 and 70-year old trees, they are not mature.

Those values are being lost, if you don't allow them to reach maturity while you are allowing mature stands to overmature and rot and fall down.

I am not suggesting for one minute this is a simple thing and it is just a question of getting you guys on the ball. That is not what I am trying to say at all. It is a complex problem. There are great distances, there are economies of scale, there is access, there are methods of harvesting that make it economical, and all of these things. You are going to have to approach it from a variety of perspectives.

If there are stands that can be harvested, rather than highgrading close to existing road systems or close to the wood-using facility, I suggest to you that you are going to have to demand of prime licence holders that they get into those areas.

If it is going to cost double, or half as much again, to get in and harvest those values, I suggest that is what you should demand of the industry. If, in their terms, or in economic terms, they can prove that it is just not viable, I think you have to provide some incentive. Maybe you will have to lower the stumpage rate on timber that is less economical because of the terrain, because of inaccessibility. If you are going to have to get in and build 20 miles of road or 40 miles of road, I think that's what we should be doing. I welcome the idea that you have increased the stumpage dues so that the prime licence holders and wood users generally will be paying a far greater share of the cost of managing and maintaining and protecting the forest values we have.

We can no longer sit idly by and just let these prime licence holders highgrade our forest products. That is what has been going on, from my observations, for the past 20, 30, 40 and 50 years; and now our chickens are coming home to roost. I don't think you can afford to keep the majority of these 798 of a complement that you have in the timber branch penned up in an office acting as administrators and paper-pushers. I think you've got to get them out into the field where the action is, to have them properly manage the forest. That is not being done. I talk to foresters within the ministry and within the industry, and if you can get anybody in the industry that wants to tell you where it's at, he will admit there aren't nearly enough foresters in the field. Frankly, I was amazed when you told my friend here from

Welland South that there were 798 of a complement in the forestry branch. Frankly, I would like to know what the hell they are doing, because this resource is not being properly managed. When I asked the graduating class in forestry at Lakehead University how many of those graduates had been—

Mr. Haggerty: Hired.

Mr. Stokes: —hired by this ministry, I think they told me five. Some of them were hired by the industry in the area, but the majority of them are being taken up by other jurisdictions such as British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, New Brunswick and Newfoundland.

It is going to cost more money. Nobody denies that. But I am saying there are values going to waste that are going to be irretrievable when you realize that it takes anywhere from 80 to 120 years to grow a tree in the boreal forest of the Province of Ontario.

We haven't got that much lead time to get on the move, not only with proper harvesting methods, but with proper sharing and proper integration of the forest industry to make sure there is maximum utilization. When I see \$2.1 million being spent over and above what you spent last year after the commitment made by the ministry and the minister that there was going to be an all-out effort and maximum emphasis placed on reforestation and siliculture, I think you are kidding us.

I wouldn't doubt that \$2.1 million wouldn't much more than take care of the inflationary trends at the present time. I read what was said not too many years ago when the Department of Lands and Forests increased its own regeneration programme to about 100,000 acres, that was in 1966, that this is still slightly less than one-half of the area requiring treatment and therefore the minimum regeneration programme required a doubling of the area being regenerated artificially from the present 100,000 acres annually to 230,000 acres.

Well, correct me if I am wrong, but I think the government regenerated about 140,000 acres last year. As a result of the Brodie Report, they said at that time that the government had to arrange to regenerate 230,000 acres.

Well, they harvested 440,000 last year. So, how close are you to even maintaining the regeneration and reforestation of what we are cutting, to say nothing of the backlog for the last 10 to 20 years in area that have been allowed to grow up in weed species?

Mr. Chairman: Could the hon. member for Thunder Bay break here? They are calling us in for a vote. Is it a good place for the hon. member to stop?

Mr. Stokes: Fine, okay.

Mr. Chairman: We will recess and come back immediately after the vote.

The committee recessed at 4:23 o'clock, p.m., for a vote in the House and reconvened at 4:51.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Stokes, would you like to go ahead?

Mr. Stokes: Yes. When we adjourned for the vote, Mr. Chairman, I was talking about the complexity of the forest management problem; but I am trying to say I don't think that we can hide our heads in the sand and hope the problem will go away by itself. It is not going to go away by itself. It is going to get increasingly worse, and I am afraid we are going to be called to account for our lack of good stewardship by succeeding generations if we don't take the bull by the horns now and do something by way of adequate forest management.

I want to quote briefly from somebody who has worked in the industry all his life, and then I want to relate that to some specific instances that I would like to talk about with the minister and the committee. It says: "It looks very much as if what is ahead is a lack of fibre for the mills." This from a company that has an unused allowable cut of maximum proportion, yet this is what they are saying:

This lack will come about in two ways. One will be a lack of reserve fibre available and there isn't much that can be done about this. The other lack will be due to an inability to supply the machinery and people needed to harvest the crop.

It doesn't make much difference to a machine whether or not the trees are numerous, scarce, tall, short, limby, branchy or anything else. It will do exactly as its operator directs. Yet all of these things have an effect, usually adverse, on the production of manual workers. If there are not enough manual workers to make up for the lack of harvesting machines, then there will not be enough fibre produced at a reasonable enough price, and then all consumers suffer.

Mills can make paper or lumber or pulp from high cost fibre; they cannot make a product of any kind from no fibre at all.

There's a person in the industry whom I believe to be sincere. I think that possibly he

is looking at the harvesting strictly from an economic point of view. I don't think he is looking at it from the point of view of good husbandry. I am sure the forester who wrote that is well aware of the tens of thousands of cords of unused mature timber that is available to that company.

That gets to what I consider to be the only valid point he made. That is, where do we get the people to work in the industry as a result of this tremendous expansion that we have seen over the past number of months? The minister knows very well that the buoyancy of the economy of the city of Thunder Bay depends almost wholly and solely on our ability to extract forest wealth and mineral wealth to provide the jobs that are so important to the economy of Thunder Bay. As a result of the announced expansion at Dryden, at Ear Falls and other places like that, the industry is now warning us that they may not be able to find a sufficient number of employees in order to harvest timber and wood fibre in the volumes that are going to be required for present production and for a much expanded production over the next few years.

It's because of the preoccupation of all ministries of government during their quest for implementation of the Design for Development in which they were looking at the areas which were felt to have the potential for expansion.

Let me take one instance—Ear Falls. I don't know what the unemployment rate is in Ear Falls but I would think it might be down to one per cent or one half of one per cent or something in that order. I don't think it is much greater than that in Sioux Lookout. If you are going to expand the woodlands operations of the prime licence holders in those areas—in order to do that and to have the manpower—you are going to have to import workers, which means added services.

They have to be accommodated; there have to be schools, hospitals, water, sewers, fire protection, police protection; all of the things people have a right to expect in this day and age.

Of necessity, you are going to have to import workers. One major company at the present time is training women to operate heavy equipment needed in the forest industry. We've got them operating skidders and other related heavy equipment used in the harvesting of wood.

Yet we have communities in northern Ontario which are withering and slowly dying on the vine for want of some economic viability. The irony of it all is that a lot of the

unused allowable cut I am talking about is within a reasonable economic distance of those communities.

The one company I have been speaking about more than any other is a company which has been sitting on what I consider to be a tremendous amount of unused allowable cut of a variety of species, ranging all the way from black spruce—which is the prime species—to white spruce to jack pine to birch and poplar. Once, we referred to birch and poplar as the weed species but now they are almost in as much demand as the other coniferous species. There is a market for them. It is a means whereby we can provide better viability to many small hamlets and unorganized communities but we are not doing this.

I am not suggesting we should lose sight of the overall objectives of Design for Development. It's something I endorse and it's something that I've advocated as a development strategy for that part of the province. But when I see literally hundreds of thousands of cords of mature timber falling over, rotting and being lost to the economy at a time when unemployment is slowly but inevitably increasing in those communities where the timber values are, I think it makes no sense at all.

As a result of negotiations your ministry had with Domtar, which broke off for the reasons I mentioned earlier, they were, in effect, almost ready to take their marbles and go home. When we said: "No, you do have those values on your limits and if you are not prepared to go out there and utilize them"—I hope the ministry said to them—"We are going to have to turn those over to somebody who is prepared to use those values."

That is almost three months ago. We were promised they would come in with an answer as to whether or not they were prepared to use those timber values. I don't know what has happened in the intervening weeks or months, but I think it is high time your timber branch said to that company: "We have an alternative." We know there are at least, at the very minimum, 450,000 cords of sawlog material within ready access of the town of Armstrong—enough timber to support a small to medium-size sawlog operation that would provide anywhere from 50 to 100 jobs, with sufficient amount of residue from that operation to be attractive to the prime licence holder, Domtar Ltd.

I would much prefer that Domtar go in and use those values by establishing a sawlog or a sawmill operation to lend some viability to the economy of Armstrong.

This community had its world pulled out from under it as the result of an action taken by the federal government to phase out its radar base. We have not too much lead time. Fifty-three civilian jobs will be lost on that radar base as a result of action taken by the federal government. While I feel very strongly that the federal government has a responsibility to step in and take up a piece of the action, either through DREE or some other vehicle, I think that if this ministry and this government took the initiative, you could shame the federal government into accepting what I consider to be a fair degree of responsibility in this whole affair.

Tens of millions of dollars worth of new wealth will be lost to the economy of Ontario and particularly to that area of the province if you don't insist that the prime licence holder either utilize those values for the benefit of the people in Armstrong, or turn them over to another entrepreneur who is willing to step in and fill the breach.

As I say, I would much prefer that Domtar Ltd. would do it. It's a well established company. This company could have a totally integrated forest operation, because it could use the residue for the contemplated expansion in Red Rock.

I think it has had sufficient time to make the assessment. When it has taken this company three months to do a feasibility study on a sawmill, it fortifies the argument I made earlier about how close the inventories were that were supposed to be taken on an ongoing basis, either by the industry or this ministry.

I feel very strongly that this branch has been remiss, because when you get an area such as Armstrong, where valuable timber rights are being allowed to overmature and rot, at a time when we can use almost every piece of fibre we can produce, I don't think that you are harvesting the allowable cut in a way that will provide maximum benefit to the people of the Province of Ontario.

I am sure the minister and this branch are well aware of the initiatives that have been taken by your counterparts in Quebec, Nova Scotia and just recently in Newfoundland. I am not suggesting for one minute that Newfoundland is miles ahead of us in forest management; they didn't even have a forest management programme. But they are moving very boldly into something on which I would have thought initiative would have been taken by this ministry since it is much further advanced and since we are much closer to what we refer to as our traditional markets. This government has been in this business for

a number of years; therefore it is much more sophisticated than they are, it is much further developed.

I am sure it does have the expertise to go ahead and do the job that needs to be done; and I think it has enough clout that it can go to the industry and demand that operators act as good corporate citizens following proper, integrated forestry methods and demand that they assist you to the greatest extent possible in silviculture and reforestation to make sure that in the next 30 or 40 years our sustained yield will be even greater than it is today, that our allowable cut will be even greater than it is today, and that utilization of resources will be much greater than at the present time.

With all of the technology the ministry has—you are talking about different strains—when I see what is going on by way of your silvicultural methods, I'm sure the ministry has the people that can do the kind of job if the emphasis was placed in the proper places.

When I hear of you planting seedlings and tubelings where the survival rate on many stands is from 10 per cent to 20 per cent, this just isn't good enough. I don't know whether or not you are dealing with a bunch of neophytes who are just groping for the right answers to the right climatic conditions, the right soil conditions, the right kind of seed; whether you are using the wrong age classes when you are transferring them from your nurseries to the plot; but I do know that your success rate, or your rate of survival with the tubelings is almost a disgrace. I am told that in many instances it's as low as 10 per cent to 20 per cent. I don't think this is good enough. I don't think we can afford to be spending upwards of \$14 million on regeneration when you are only having that kind of success. I'm told by many of your foresters that if they had their way, in many areas they would abandon the whole tubeling programme.

So in effect what I'm saying, Mr. Minister, is that it is most disconcerting to me when I hear that you are leaders in the world when it comes to silviculture, reforestation and proper management. This isn't the case. I can document it for the minister, if he wishes, just what is being done in other areas. I think he knows what is being done in other areas. I don't have to spend the time of the committee reciting it chapter and verse, but let me quote something that was said by one of the minister's colleagues, who was just getting to know his way around in this ministry and then he went on to bigger and better things.

He said:

I do not believe that the people of Ontario will any longer accept harvesting techniques that leave forest conditions in which it is either not possible to establish regeneration by any known technique or where the cost of establishment far exceeds the direct revenues the government receives as stumpage. It is extremely important that government and industry co-operate so as to rapidly develop harvesting regeneration methods that provide a solution to this problem. If not, there may be certain forest sites that, for valid ecological reasons, are removed from forest production.

Increasingly, forest managers are going to have to develop procedures that permit them to rationalize their forest investments. They need to know how much money can be spent on a variety of sites and which is the best of a number of alternative methods to use in a given situation.

As an example, how much more intensive should forest management be on the best sites, and close to mills and transportation corridors? When and where should genetically-improved seed and planting stock be used? Under what circumstances is forest fertilization practical? It seems to me that the selection of any given technique would be made in the expectation that it would produce additional wood at lower cost than any other available tool.

At this point, I wish to elaborate a bit on government policy with respect to the use of the forest as a source of raw material for the forest-based industries. Firstly, our view is that the holdings of a Crown timber licence carries with it the obligation of the licensee to utilize all of the timber standing on the licensed area that can be used economically on observing good forestry practices.

We are determined that, in the near future, no longer will significant usable wood products be tied up in licences to the detriment of existing or new industries. There should be no misunderstanding on the matter that public forestry policy will be directed towards a strong drive for forest industrial expansion up to the time that the full allowable cut is going into industrial use annually. As a consequence, on a sustained yield licence, if the full allowable cut is not being utilized, or plans to utilize the full allowable cut in the immediate future are lacking, then we intend to remove the surplus timber from

the licence as a source of supply for some other facility.

Secondly, policy will strive to promote the rational use of the forest so as to avoid waste. It is a matter of principle that no material must be utilized for a certain purpose when it can be efficiently substituted with another of lower value and equally usable. Government and industry cannot overlook the fact that Ontario's forests contain a variety of tree species and sizes suitable to meet a range of industrial needs for wood. Our principle concern is the utilization of the forest resource as a whole, to the best advantage of the province, economically and socially. We expect the forest industry to become more concerned and active in directing each tree species in size to its highest end use in integrated operations. Should they fail in this obligation greater government intervention can be expected.

Now I don't know whether that was a threat or a boast or an announcement of policy to come. When I hear representatives from the industry talking about all they are doing with regard to good forest management, I want this committee to know that the industry doesn't do one jot, one tittle, that they aren't being paid for out of funds that we're voting here this afternoon. I think the spokesman for the industry are being less than honest when they go and talk about all they're doing with regard to good husbandry and good forest management. They aren't doing one thing they don't get paid for.

I would think that the ministry could insist in many instances that the industry—particularly when markets are so buoyant—get in and use those areas they have neglected for so long. That's what this report says, but that isn't what you're doing. That's what bothers me. That's what it says. That's what the Brodie report said. That's what the Hedlin Menzies report said. That is what the Ontario Economic Council said. That's what you have been saying. But it isn't happening.

I'm saying that the needs of Armstrong, at the present time, are an excellent example of what could be done if you put into practice what you've been saying and what these reports have been telling you.

If the member for Rainy River (Mr. Reid) was here, and I'm sure he will be in shortly, he would be reminding you of the problems surrounding Atikokan at the present time, where the underpinnings of their major industry could begin to crumble if we don't provide an alternative for the economic

well-being of the community of Atikokan. I'm sure there are unused values in wood fibre around there that would sustain a fairly large or at least medium-sized wood-using industry. Hopefully, the minister will have something to say about that, if not today then in the very near future. I have a few other things that I want to say, Mr. Minister, but I don't like to monopolize this whole discussion. I'll take a breather while the minister responds to some of my remarks and we'll go on from there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, if I may respond to the hon. member. I must first go back to his opening remarks when he felt he was being conned by facts and figures that he was being given by my ministry with regard to allowable cut and sustained yield and other issues relating to forest management. I would have to say to him that if he feels that way then I would be prepared to have him meet with my officials here in Toronto to go over the latest facts and figures; to pull together, once and for all, all the facts we have.

We have files and files of facts and figures dealing with allowable cuts and inventories for specific areas; so I don't think there is any need to be feeling that anybody has conned you or that anybody has twisted, or has tried to twist, any facts and figures that have been given to you.

I hope you'll take the opportunity to sit down with our people to clarify any doubt that may be in your mind. I think it is fair to say, and I've said it on many occasions in the last two years, that we've embarked on a very large and a new aggressive implementation plan for regeneration of the silviculture.

Mr. Haggerty: You said that last year, but you've fallen behind.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Now wait a minute. It takes time to get a programme under way. We won't be hitting our full stride until 1982. You have to get your seeds ready, expand your nurseries. All these are sequential, they just fall in line until we build up to that. When 1982 comes we will be doubling our silviculture programme. This is our goal to reach the 9.1 million cunits a year that will be required.

Mr. Haggerty: You didn't say that last year, Mr. Minister. All you said was that you increased your production last year and—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Redoubled.

Mr. Haggerty: Reforestation doubled, but you didn't say in a 10-year period.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It's over a 10-year programme. It has to be. There is no way you can do it in one year. It's just impossible.

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, during the time of the break the girls asked me if we couldn't get you to speak a little more loudly so they can get it all down in Hansard. So perhaps if you just spoke a little more loudly.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are moving in this direction and I am more than confident this goal will be attained. Certainly I am very appreciative to my cabinet colleagues who went along with this programme last year when we inaugurated it. The extra \$2 million that we have this year indicates where we are going. The increase—

Mr. Haggerty: Your increase in stumpage fees this year—how much revenue is that going to bring in?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That'll bring in about \$28 million in the next year.

Mr. Haggerty: That's \$28 million.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: What I am saying is we are increasing our complement, we have increased our expenditure in this particular field, we are heading in that direction. We have a goal set and we've got a programme; something we never had three or four years ago. We have that programme.

Mr. Haggerty: Well almost. You've almost got one.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Just touching base on the inventory aspect, I would point out to the member that we have an inventory programme, it's on a 20-year rotation. Granted our figures at the end of that 20-year period will become outdated because of certain problems that will come into effect—forest fires, insects, and technological changes—

Mr. Haggerty: But you have lost 17,000 acres in Crown lands where you have fallen behind in reforestation, and that's quite a number of acres.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll catch up. This is our goal; to catch up by 1982. It's part of an overall programme. So I say to you this falls in line.

Mr. Haggerty: We will have to watch this ministry very closely, won't we Jack?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: In fact, the member mentioned our unsatisfactory result with tube seedlings. I think it's fair to say we have altered our plans in that particular field. We

are being more selective now where we put those. In fact we are swinging more to just planting of seedlings. So we are responding to these changes and these problems and maintaining a goal that we've set for ourselves.

You elaborated at some considerable length on the situation at Armstrong. I could get into that.

Maybe I'd better touch on the other items first, the technological changes that have occurred in the forest industries right across the board. It's interesting to note that the \$253 million expansion for Anglo-Canadian up in the Ear Falls-Red Lake area is designed to use nothing but residue—that is the chips and sawdust from pines—in their new mill. And eventually the mill in Dryden will use that same commodity.

In other words, there'll be no round wood going into those pulp mills; they'll just be using the residue. Which is our ultimate goal, as the hon. member pointed out quoting from the copy of a speech that was delivered to the OFIA by my former parliamentary assistant, John Rhodes. As I say, we spent some considerable time pulling that speech together because we wanted to relay to the industry what our goals were and where we were going, and that we were heading in that direction.

We're waving our flag and we're going in this direction, now that the economic factors are there to do it. We are putting the pressure on them, and they know it. I think if you talk to any major pulp and paper company they will tell you that we're getting a little bit difficult to live with. I think there are three or four we have extracted timber from already, much to the hue and cry of those presidents and those boards of directors. We're doing this because we do feel this is proper management of the forest resources.

As an example, this year for the first time we'll be utilizing 1.3 million bone dry tons of chips. This is something that 10 years ago the paper mills said couldn't be done; you just couldn't put chips into your system; it wasn't practical and it wasn't feasible. The pressure went on them, because of the technological changes in the sawmill industry.

I think it is fair to say that the sawmills in the Province of Ontario have advanced the technology in their field far more rapidly than some of the paper mills. But the paper mills now are responding. We see one new facility being put in at Spruce Falls, the thermal mechanical refinery. It's a new concept of grinding pulp which will use a

broad range of species in its operation. So that they too are responding to the needs and the demands of the ministry and the public at large to make greater utilization of all species, utilizing them to the maximum.

You mentioned our 798 employees in this particular branch. I would point out that we have 191 foresters, and the rest are forest technicians. We do try to engage the best of the forestry schools. In fact our goal is to hire three to five top students from the forestry section; and we're successful in getting that number. I would love to double this quantity if funds could be made available to us. Just keep in mind that as funds become available then we tie our programme in with them.

At the present time, and I mentioned this at the opening of the Inwood forest products mill at Upsala on Friday last, we were nearing the 90 per cent mark with regard to the utilization of coniferous species in the Province of Ontario. At the present time we are at the 52 per cent mark. With the major expansion programmes we have in the wings—and I mentioned two or three of them—then we will be up to 90 per cent. When those programmes come on stream we will be up to about 42 per cent of the allowable cuts on hardwood.

So we are getting, as the hon. member for Thunder Bay says, close to our limitations as to how much we can support on a sustained yield basis. The Laidlaw operation at Thunder Bay is one to which we gave very careful consideration.

As you have correctly pointed out, we have an obligation and it's government policy that we will provide X number of jobs from the forest industries, from the mining industries, to reach the goals set out in Design for Development, phase 2. This was part of it.

Now it meant some very severe restrictions and some tough decisions to give the three hardwood management units in the Thunder Bay area to a specific company. We negotiated long and hard. But I would say to you that the hardwoods from the private lands can still be sold wherever the individual owner would like them to be sold. Nobody will interfere with that, obviously.

As for the timber from Crown lands, we felt if it went to one specific company which was prepared to spend \$10 million on the development of a plant and provide 208 new jobs in Thunder Bay, it was well worth us getting involved and directing all this wood, this allowable cut, to one particular mill. They will be using about 80,000 cords on the one stream; and when the other stream comes

on full swing they will be building to 260,000 cunits per year. This is available in that particular area.

As I said in the Legislature, in no way will we allow Laidlaw to use their monopoly position to force the price down. We will monitor very closely what other companies are paying for these species and we intend to ride herd on them. We don't intend them to use that monopoly position to the detriment of the local operators. It's my understanding that since we have laid our programme out to the various operators, they have come around to our way of thinking. I think they see the economic benefits that will be gained by this new industry are far greater than if they went along on the haphazard basis they are moving on now.

We have that in hand. It's moving ahead and I think it should be on stream by August of this year. The operators in these management units have been given the authority to cut, as they have been in the past, until August of this year when they can sell to any operator.

I would point out to you that Laidlaw will be using wood which has been cut for no longer than a three-month period. They can't use a backlog of wood which has been cut for a long period of time; they must use what is basically fresh-cut wood. We think, after careful consideration of all the economic requirements and the social benefits which will be derived, this was the direction to go.

With regard to the Domtar situation, I think the member made a point about inventories—who does it? Do we do it or do they do it or do we do it on a co-operative basis? We do all three. We do it, they do it; and in many instances—in this particular instance—we are doing it together with Domtar. They have a very extensive management plan on the lower part of their limits. I think about a year from now—Jim might correct me; next year—they will have their management plan completely devised for the northern part of their limits, which we are anxiously looking forward to receiving.

I have met on at least two occasions with Mr. Fleming to discuss the Atikokan situation and our desire—the government's desire—is to maintain the economic viability of that particular community; but I think there's more to it than just providing a sawmill. I think it's fair to say you would have to import employees. I don't think the people in Armstrong are totally geared to work in a sawmill.

I live in a small town of 500 to 600 people and we have a new sawmill there. You would be surprised how many people they have to import to keep that mill operating; they can't rely on the local people because they are not equipped. They may be of the age group but they don't have experience in that particular field. It does, I agree, provide an economic base, an economic future.

Mr. Stokes: Upsala just proved that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, but there are only 20—

Mr. Stokes: There isn't a person working in that mill, in any facet of it, who didn't come from that small organized community. One of the chaps, as you well know—the fellow who was operating that thing while we were watching him—actually went down to some place in the United States to learn how to run that equipment. There isn't a person directly or indirectly involved in that sawmill operation who didn't come from the immediate area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But that was a specific type of operation; we are not thinking of a sawmill. As Domtar pointed out to us and as the member has correctly pointed out, they did come to us with an expansion programme at Red Rock. It was a very ambitious programme, a \$90 million expansion programme, which would take in far beyond what their limits would allow. It was part of a whole integrated package. Once we looked at it, of course, it required that we direct the residue and the chips from a number of other mills to support the particular package they were presenting us.

We did not feel we wanted to get into that particular area in the Red Rock-Domtar area, in that specific area. We had gone into it with Laidlaw for specific reasons, but here was an operation which had large limits and I think it's fair to say they had not been using or utilizing their full allowable cut. I think we accept that fact, but they are now.

Mr. Stokes: No, they are not. They are using less.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But they will be.

Mr. Stokes: They are using less now on their limits than they ever did before. They are phasing out their cutting operation. They have only two camps operating, camp 56 and camp 58. Everything else is by way of residue coming all the way from the Atikokan area and from the Hearst area. They are not using those cuts.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Once we turned them down on this particular application, this package expansion, they came back to us and we just said there was no way we wanted to get into directing a fibre into their particular mill. They've gone back to the drawing boards, but they have assured us if we in any way move their allowable cut on their present limits, then we'd throw their expansion at Red Rock into jeopardy. And they'll have one for us!

They said they could put in a cutting camp at Armstrong, but the area they would locate in is 20 miles from Armstrong, which would be of no direct benefit.

They even indicated to us that if anyone in Armstrong wished to move to one of their other plants, wished to move to Red Rock or be involved in their operation and they have the capability and the help and all the experience, they'd be glad to take them. They have indicated that to me.

Domtar is sincere in doing something! They really are. I don't know how the member feels, but I would question that until we get their plans properly laid down before us we should put that expansion at Red Rock in jeopardy in any way, shape or form.

Mr. Stokes: People in your ministry have assured me that they should be able to make a realistic assessment of the viability of an operation at Armstrong within a period of three months. It is well over two months since I was told that by very knowledgeable people in your ministry. I am just wondering when you say by next year Domtar will be able to—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They'll have a management plan, but they will have an expansion programme before us before then.

Mr. Stokes: I should hope so.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, they will. We are waiting for that momentarily. As soon as we have that, of course, we will make a decision and work with them.

I would say in my discussion with Mr. Fleming that he is as concerned about the future of Armstrong as any one of us. He indicated that very clearly, and the staff that was with me I am sure will agree that they would if they could, find some way of operating in that area economically and utilizing the overmature timber.

They are as aware of the overmature timber as we are. We've been pressing, but there are only 450,000 cords. If you put a good-sized sawmill in there, using 90,000 cords a year, what have we got? Four or five years of operation. The economic outlay

to get an operation there would be fantastic. There is no hydro, for one thing.

Mr. Haggerty: There are roads you can put in there. The member for Thunder Bay mentions a good point there, that perhaps there are other operators who could go in and still take off—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have a proposal.

Mr. Haggerty: —the overaged timber lying there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have a proposal from a certain individual.

Mr. Haggerty: Why not let those persons venture in there if it is going to create employment?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: There are other hookers attached to it, as the member well knows. There is the cost of electrical power that must be provided; improved transportation facilities must be provided because Armstrong is a little remote. There is a community infrastructure that will have to be provided. You have to question, looking at the whole cost benefit, is this the direction in which to go? In a few years, if that resource is depleted again then where do we go?

Mr. Haggerty: It will probably be over-aged lumber. It will probably have fallen down.

Mr. Stokes: The member for Welland South really doesn't know about the situation in Armstrong. I could explain it if we had a map here. I was almost going to insist when these estimates started that the timber branch put up on the wall a map showing all of the areas of the province that are under licence and the prime licence holders and tell us the allowable cut of each particular species under each licence. I felt that I would be asking something that would be unrealistic. I'm kind of sorry I didn't.

Can you realistically sit there and tell me there are only 450,000 cords of overmature timber available for cutting in the Armstrong area?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, on Domtar's limits.

Mr. Stokes: No; even on Domtar's limits. We are talking about 450,00 cords that your ministry in concert with that prime licence holder has decided are there and are of top quality where the percentage of decadence is almost nil. That's the 450,000 cords you are talking about.

If you look at all of the timber values within a 40-mile radius of Armstrong, you aren't

talking about 450,000 cords; you are talking about five million cords.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, Great Lakes is fairly close to Armstrong.

Mr. Stokes: No they aren't.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: To the west of Armstrong.

Mr. Stokes: Up in the Graham area.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well he asked them—no, their limits go north of the CNR.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, but it's over at Savant Lake.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, no. How far is it; 12 or 13 miles?

Mr. Lockwood: To Savant?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, from Armstrong to Great Lakes' limits?

Mr. Lockwood: About that; or 20 miles.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: About 20 miles. We approached Great Lakes and said: "Look, in your large expansion programme north of Savant Lake would you go back and give consideration to putting something in Armstrong? We insist that before we make any firm proposals we would like your reaction to doing something in Armstrong."

They came back to us in two or three weeks and said: "It is in our plans. We would like to go in there, but not at this point in time. According to our long-range plans, we could go in there five or six years from now. But, of course, if the government wanted to subsidize us—"That's what they usually ask for. When you ask them to do something, they want something in return, such as large expenditures for transportation facilities, infrastructures, housing—

Mr. Stokes: Hydro.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —hydro and that type of thing. They might consider it then.

Mr. Haggerty: What happens to the mature timber that is standing there? Is it going to be a total loss to the Province of Ontario or should it be cut now? I think that is the point you raised, Jack.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, you have to assess the economics of getting that wood out. It may well be in the eyes of the general public that it should be cut. As a layman, I hate to see a tree rotting away. It should be cut and put to good use and provide employment and

some economic benefit to the people of the Province of Ontario. But it might not be economic to get that wood out—and there are going to be areas of this province that are going to be like that forever and a day.

Mr. Haggerty: Of course, the member for Thunder Bay says it is economical to do it; and I think he has some knowledge—

Mr. Stokes: It isn't any less economical than many of the areas that you are going to be harvesting to satisfy Dryden Paper and Ontario Paper. The province, in concert with the federal government through DREE, is spending a substantial amount of money to open up areas northeast of Sioux Lookout to get at timber values that they obviously wouldn't do by themselves or else you people wouldn't be spending money there.

All I am saying is that since the timber values are there, you must look at the cost of not doing anything. Because if you are not going to develop this and provide some viability for that area, you are going to be paying it out in social costs. You are going to be paying it out in welfare and all of the associated social costs of a slow-growth or an underdeveloped area. There are a good many people who will never move there, and you are going to have second- and third-generation welfare recipients. That is just too debilitating, and I don't think that you can afford to do it.

I am not saying that your ministry is wholly and solely responsible for all of these problems that are going to result, but I think that since your ministry is oriented toward the resources, in many respects it is the only ministry that can get the ball rolling. It is much easier for you to sit around the cabinet table and say: "Give me X numbers of dollars in order to accomplish this." Because if we do this, you won't be coming around the cabinet table looking for extra dollars to pick up the pieces after the economy has fallen apart.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But I say to you, this is one of the problems that arises in northern Ontario time and time again when you have single-resource-based industries supporting a community. Those resources, be they non-renewable or even the renewable ones, become uneconomical at a point. In terms of non-renewable resources, we know what is going to happen at Atikokan. Maybe the time to bite the bullet is right now—to go in there with a package or a programme—

Mr. Stokes: Sure.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —to assist those people. Possibly we should relocate them in a substantial way. I am not saying we should go in there niggardly and pay them nothing for their homes, because that is their life savings. I accept that. Possibly with Manpower—and the Provincial Secretary for Resources Development (Mr. Grossman) has taken this on as a secretariat programme so he can co-ordinate all the services of all the ministries, he's trying to pull together a package and he has either gone to Ottawa or is going to Ottawa to meet with the federal people and nail down what they should be doing in the field of working with Manpower in relocation and this type of thing.

We have a responsibility. They don't seem to be moving as fast as we'd like them to. So the provincial secretary is going to Ottawa to nail that down. In fact, he tried to get to Armstrong a couple of weeks ago and he got as far as Thunder Bay.

So the issue of Armstrong is certainly not a dead issue yet, I can assure you of that. We are going to explore every avenue we have to try to come to grips with it and to try to settle that situation, because it's one that we're going to be confronted with time and time again.

Atikokan is a typical example. We are seeing what's happening there. Those non-renewable resources will be depleted by what, 1982; and the experts tell us that 2,000 people in Atikokan will have to be relocated if no other form of industry is established.

We have two very active proposals before us now dealing with the hardwood that is available in that particular area. Here, too, this comes off a major licensee's limits. They are actively involved and we should have their proposal within the next week and we'll make a decision. But there will be a plant in Atikokan.

Mr. Haggerty: It sounds like there are many licences that you've issued to certain companies in that area that they are just sitting on, not doing too much and just holding back.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would say that was the case.

Mr. Haggerty: They pick and choose as to the material, the lumber that they want or the wood products that they want, and they are just sitting there. Perhaps there are smaller operators who could go in there and still employ persons and still make money on the lumbering products that are there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: As I said earlier, we took back timber from three major licence holders and gave it to another operator, another company that would operate and set up a mill in that particular area, because we knew that company had not used their full allowable cut.

Mr. Haggerty: As I understand it, the time we did this in northern Ontario, I think it was Kimberly-Clark that somebody mentioned, they almost owned from Hudson Bay or have the rights from Hudson Bay right down to Lake Superior. If that's the case it's quite a tract of land they have.

Mr. Stokes: It's based on two mills; three mills, actually.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You must realize that when these companies come in and spend \$200 million or \$300 million they must have a guaranteed source of supply on a sustained basis. You don't get that kind of an investment and say: "Here's a year's supply of wood." You just don't do it. They won't come.

In fact, it's only been in the last two or three years that we've got renewed activity and renewed interest in expanding the forest industry because of the economics, because we've had the wood fibre available. I'll buy that.

Mr. Stokes: You see, that's an example of one company that is going to be around for a while. You get the impression by what you see going on throughout their limits, particularly at Longlac, particularly at Terrace Bay, where you have the feeling, when you see what is going on in that forestry complex, that they're just not going to cut out and get out. They're going to properly manage that.

I don't know all of the ramifications, I know there are wood values up in the Pagwa area that they were willing to dump five years ago but would guard with their last dying breath right now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's very true.

Mr. Stokes: I told them so at the time and they told me I didn't know what I was talking about, but events have proven me right.

But they are a company that give you the impression that they are interested in managing the resource and having an integrated logging operation, because they are sharing with Weldwood at Longlac in their plywood operation, both spruce and poplar. They are

also co-operating in the new flakeboard mill that is due to go into production; I suppose that will be the next one we'll be going to. It will be in operation fairly soon. They are supplying poles to users in the city of Thunder Bay. They are providing chips to Marathon, it's American Can there. They give you the impression they are sincerely concerned and trying to do something about it.

But I don't get that impression when I see many of the other prime licence holders. Maybe it's because I'm more familiar with what they're doing than some of the others.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We saw it on Friday last, where Abitibi and Great Lakes assisted the Inwood plan at Upsala in making sure they would be provided with sufficient hardwood off their limits, and if they are collecting—

Mr. Stokes: Yes, but the minister is talking about 10,000 cords a year?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think the big companies are coming around to a different way of thinking than they were five and 10 years ago. Before they wouldn't let anybody take any wood off their licences. They figured it was theirs to hold for ever and a day. But that is changing, because the economics and the pressures are changing.

Mr. Stokes: Okay. Is the minister finished responding to what I said?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Stokes: Okay. I mentioned an allowable cut of \$9.1 million cunits a year. Those were the last figures that I had to refer to. Is there anybody in your ministry who can update those figures in the light of things that have happened, since that was a valid figure to use based on whatever information you had? If so, where are these values? It is fairly precise—9.1—so the minister must have had something—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's our goal for 1982.

Mr. Stokes: No, that's what it is now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right now we are cutting about 500,000.

Mr. Stokes: No, no.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Five million I mean; or five hundred million.

Mr. Stokes: No, about five million cunits; that's what you are harvesting now.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Stokes: I am told that the allowable cut is 9.1 million, so you are harvesting, overall, a little over 50 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Okay.

Mr. Stokes: Where is the unused allowable cost? Is it on prime licence land or is it in your Crown management unit?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Lockwood advises me it's on both. It's on both prime and Crown land.

Mr. Stokes: That proves my point. I've used these figures as the ministry updated them and nobody has quarrelled with me at all. Yet I get somebody coming to me and saying: "I'm having difficulty getting timber. I want a small veneer operation or I want 2,000 cords of pulpwood so that I can keep my people going in the winter so I don't lose good operators for a contracting business in the summer." Many of these contractors you call upon to do your work; the Ministry of Transportation and Communications calls upon them to do its work, but it is seasonal, the very nature of it.

So all right, you get a small operator who is doing a good job, and you would be lost without him, because if you call on somebody to do some scarifying or if you want X thousands of yards of gravel to upgrade an access road in keeping with your Northern Ontario Resources Transportation funds, it's absolutely essential that you have those people to call on.

All right. They want to maintain a year-round operation. There is a market for pulpwood. They come to you and they say: "Can I cut 2,000 cords of wood?" It's just a bureaucratic nightmare for those people to have to wade through all of the people who for whatever reasons say: "Well, we're not in a position to allocate any timber to you at this time because . . . blah, blah, blah. The prime licence holder has some plans and we are looking at some overall plans."

Hon. Mr. Bernier: But I say to you—

Mr. Stokes: If you've got 50 per cent of unused allowable cut and a lot of it on a Crown management unit, I don't think you are being fair with those people by making it so difficult for them to get something as paltry as 1,000 or 2,000 cords. That is what you are talking about with many of these—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The thing is, you are talking about a Crown management unit and you must provide access to that timber for the small operators because they don't have

the wherewithal. I can assure you, and I have been through the mill dozens and dozens of times, fellows will start with a district cutting licence of 200 cords, or it may be 500 cords, and next year we will give them 1,000 cords. Then they go out and they buy two Tree Farmers and then they've got to pay for the Tree Farmers. Well they need 2,000 cords next year. Then they go out and they buy some more equipment.

As the member said, they may be doing some scarifying for us in the off-season, so they buy a couple more bulldozers. Then you get him up to 5,000 cords and it goes on and on.

If you get 50 or 100 of these types of operations going, you are eating into that guaranteed allowable cut very quickly. This is why it does become frustrating and why we are getting new operators starting up every day with the economics the way they are. People who wouldn't have been in the wood business a few years ago are now getting into it because it is so attractive and lucrative. There is no problem in selling the product.

A few years ago when I first went into the Ministry of Natural Resources, hardly a fellow came through my door looking for any timber because he couldn't sell it. But I tell you now, every week, every day, there is a phone call, there are letters, there are people coming through the door looking for timber because the economics are such.

Mr. Havrot: When you are talking of 9 million cunits, is this for the whole province?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, all species.

Mr. Havrot: I just want to make some remarks on what Mr. Stokes had to say in his opening remarks. He said that he had been conned by the ministry. Was he relating to his own specific area; or was he relating this to the whole province and the various management units?

Mr. Stokes: The province generally.

Mr. Havrot: I don't know. I guess you haven't been up in my area, because I just happened to be in to the district forester's office. We went over a very comprehensive plan that was geared right up to 1979, identifying every species that was in the area.

The other thing involves the allowable cuts. Abitibi and E. B. Eddy had considerable limits in the area. The Elk Lake management unit there had 20 some townships. Abitibi to the north of this—

Mr. Stokes: I dealt with that in 1968.

Mr. Havrot: Yes, well they have exchanged those limits. The operators in the immediate area have been given the concession to cut on the E. B. Eddy limits in trade for other timber closer to the Abitibi limits or to E. B. Eddy ground. They made trade-offs; but there is no surplus of allowable cuts in my area, I will tell you that. You are very fortunate that you have a surplus of allowable cuts, because we haven't got them.

Mr. Stokes: I think you have.

Mr. Havrot: No, we haven't. I was in the lumber business for 16 years, and by golly I know that end, that Swastika management unit. They are a very efficient operation and they have done an excellent job. The operators in those areas, just as the minister has pointed out, weren't interested five years ago, and all of a sudden they want all kinds of timber. But, the only problem is there isn't enough of it. It is not growing fast enough to satisfy the current demand today. I can foresee that in another 10 years in my area we are going to be cut right out of timber. That is what it is heading for. We have investments of \$4 million and \$5 million in mills in my area. It is nothing compared to what you have in the \$200 million range, but we have about 100 million board feet of lumber coming out of our area every year just from three or four operators. I think that your criticism is unfair, because it may apply in your area but certainly not in our area.

Mr. Stokes: Well, were you using 50 per cent?

Mr. Havrot: It just depends on 50 per cent of what.

Mr. Stokes: Of the allowable cut.

Mr. Havrot: You are talking of all species, but can you utilize all species? Can all firms utilize all species? You are dealing with poplar, birch, balsam, spruce, jack pine; and it all depends on the nature of the operation, too. North of Cochrane there were millions of cunits of poplar, for example, that have never been utilized. It's the choicest poplar, probably, in northeastern Ontario. The point is that today they are starting to use them, but they had to find a mill that could utilize this.

Mr. Stokes: I am glad you said just starting to use them—

Mr. Havrot: They have been using them for 10 years.

Mr. Stokes: That just bolsters my argument that there is allowable cut in your area.

Mr. Havrot: People in Cochrane, for example, those who built the mill in Cochrane, are utilizing it. There was a mill in Kirkland Lake for face veneer, to get faces for the veneer. There was no problem getting coarse, the centre part of the plywood, because we didn't have the quality of the poplar, so we had to import the poplar from Cochrane and we found a need for it.

But unless you find a need for it, you can have all the allowable cuts you want, it all depends on the specie and where it is available, whether it is available to a pulp mill that can utilize the jack pine and the spruce, or whether they can utilize some percentage of poplar with that or birch. It all depends on the area itself. It has to lend itself to the facilities that are available. You can talk all about allowable cuts that aren't being used, but it depends on what the facilities are in that area to utilize those allowable cuts.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Rollins, did you have something to say?

Mr. C. T. Rollins (Hastings): Mr. Chairman, in the Bancroft-Tweed area what Mr. Stokes refers to does not apply either. The permit system that is being used by the Bancroft area and the Tweed area has been very acceptable to the large and small operators, using the method that has been set up in the scheduling. We have no problems with the small operators taking care of seasonal employment; and the timber industry is the backbone of our county and Haliburton county in that particular area, which has been a most stable one for a number of years. The future looks promising, with careful management through the district and the Tweed offices in handling their future requirements.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If any member of this committee has any questions in regard to a management unit, and wishes to sit down with our staff and go over the map, and ask questions about the allowable cuts, where they are located, who would get them, where they are going, what is available and what's not; he is free to do so.

Mr. Stokes: You admitted, in your response to my opening statement that we have reached 50 per cent. With commitments that have been made it will be close to 90 per cent. Now I don't quarrel with those figures, because you know what the increased de-

mand for fibre is going to be based on commitments that you have made. All I hope is that you are going to be able to meet those commitments on a sustained yield basis, because if you can't you are going to be in trouble. If you get somebody investing \$250 million—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That's the point; that's exactly the point.

Mr. Stokes:—and then you find that you have overstepped yourself, and you have to start saying: "Okay, let's start closing down this little guy, because we have to sustain this big fellow with the \$250 million investment", you aren't going to be able to assure them, even if you are only at 90 per cent in the next two to three years, you are not going to be able to give reasonable assurance that they will have that on a continuing basis unless you put major emphasis on reforestation.

Just to respond to what Mr. Rollins said, I don't know whether he is aware of something that was contained in the Ontario Economic Council report on the forest industry. This report paid particular attention to a programme of reforestation and silviculture in the area south of the French River. In this area, because of climatic and soil conditions, the productivity potential was much greater than in northern Ontario. In northern Ontario, productivity was reduced because of the adverse climate, shallow soils and the inability of the forest to maintain itself at the same rate of productivity as was the case in southern Ontario.

Reforestation and silvicultural methods were carried out on 140,000 acres last year. Let me ask the ministry how many of those acres were south of the French River, where the potential is so much greater than it is north of the French River.

Mr. Haggerty: You can bring a tree into production in about four years in this area.

Mr. Stokes: You know what happened when the settlers first came to Canada, when all of the wood was harvested in the name of the Crown for the shipbuilding industry.

Go back and read the history of forestry in Upper Canada. You can read that thousands and thousands of square miles of southern Ontario, supposedly suitable for good agricultural land, were just burned. They found they were wrong. There is a narrow band stretching along the southern part of this province that is ideally suited for agricultural purposes. When I travel, I don't travel as extensively through southern Ontario as I do through the north, but I can see acre after acre of scrub land, because it was never given the kind of attention that it deserved. The productive capacity on an acre of average land in southern Ontario that is not suitable for agricultural purposes is so much greater than on a similar plot in northwestern Ontario that it isn't even funny.

If we are going to maintain our relative position in world markets, you are going to have to start placing some emphasis on those areas that you are speaking of, in eastern Ontario, that are so much more productive.

If we are going to maintain our relative position and provide the kind of viability that can be provided for many of those smaller communities in eastern Ontario, that is the way you are going to do it. And you can do it on a sustained yield basis. It is a crop that will continue to bring you a good dollar, but it is not going to happen by itself.

This ministry is going to have to become just as involved in those areas in eastern Ontario as we are urging them to be involved in northern Ontario generally.

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, are you ready to vote on this?

Mr. Stokes: What do you mean?

Mr. Chairman: I thought you were finished.

Mr. Stokes: No.

Mr. Chairman: If you are not, then I think we had better adjourn until 8 o'clock, p.m., tonight.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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Standing Resources
Development Committee
Chairman: Mr. R. K. McNeil

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Monday, May 27, 1974
Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER
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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, MAY 27, 1974

The committee resumed at 8:10 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES,
MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
(concluded)

On vote 2204, item 3:

Mr. Chairman: We will start again with Mr. Stokes. Will you carry on where you left off?

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Yes.

Mr. E. M. Havrot (Timiskaming): I thought he had left off.

Mr. Chairman: I thought maybe he had finished, but he hasn't. Mr. Stokes.

Mr. Stokes: Are you tired of listening, Ed?

Mr. Havrot: Very much so. This is only my first meeting, too.

Mr. J. F. Foulds (Port Arthur): Let the record show that, too.

Mr. Havrot: I'm not on the committee, I'm replacing someone temporarily.

Hon. L. Bernier (Minister of Natural Resources): Let's welcome Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Stokes: The member for Timiskaming has a lot to say for someone who isn't even on the committee.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Stokes, would you like to continue?

Mr. Stokes: Yes. Since I'm not able to get the updated figures of the allowable cut of the prime licence holders—and I think there are about 13 of them at the present time—I suppose I'll have to get them in private conversation or consultation with members of the branch.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): Don't let them mislead you, Jack.

Mr. Stokes: What I want to do is remind you of certain things that have been said by people who should know what's going on

in the industry generally. And I'm speaking about recommendations made to the timber branch by professional foresters in the Province of Ontario. If their recommendations were, in fact, being practised, or had progressed to the state where they were satisfied that you were on the right track, I don't think that they would have taken the trouble to enumerate them. And I'm not going to mention them all, but just the ones that I consider most urgent.

The first one is:

An essential requirement is the intensification of research and development in forestry, forest products and other resources related to forest lands. Much of this is necessarily of a long-term nature and, to be effective, must be sustained at all times by adequate staff and funds.

This is in keeping with what is going on in one of the jurisdictions I mentioned that had decided to take a different approach. This is the new approach taken by the ministry responsible for forestry in Newfoundland. And it's from the Hon. E. Maynard, Minister of Forestry and Agriculture, from St. John's. This is in a release that he put out to the Newfoundland Legislature when he announced the new policy. And he says:

As stated earlier, the basic policy is that government must undertake the exclusive management planning of our forest resources, aside from the physical rationalization and regulation of the resources as they stand. These plans will include research and development of new products.

Our trees are largely softwood. We must seek to diversify and develop where possible into hardwood species. Although much of the hardwood, mainly white and yellow birch, is scattered and can only be harvested in conjunction with softwood operations, there are areas of high concentration in certain regions. A rising demand for furniture and other hardwood products, coupled with a decrease in quality hardwood resources in the US, Scandinavia and other parts of Canada, favour development of this resource. And the proposed management plan will indeed have the effect of creating new dimensions for our forest in-

dustry, which will be demanding of new skills and a renewed sense of enterprise in a field which has been static for far too long.

While I don't want to compare in a general way what has gone in the past in Newfoundland, I think they're just sort of beginning to realize that they haven't even begun to manage their resources properly.

All I am saying is, that with the increased emphasis on this very valuable resource in other jurisdictions, it means that if we are going to maintain our competitive position within not only the domestic but the offshore market, we are going to have to do as well or better than those people. If we are going to compete in European markets—since they are on the seaboard—it means that we are going to have to become that much more efficient and be in a position to compete with them as they develop new skills and the utilization of all of these species and the development of new product lines. Another thing that the foresters say is:

The association strongly supports professionally planned and directed inventories of timber and of all other forest resources. [Now, if that were being done at the present time, they wouldn't have the need to keep reminding you of the need to do that.] Adequate data on the location, extent and nature of the forest resources are a prerequisite to development of forest policies, planning and sound management. Inventory data must be updated periodically, having regard not only to changes in forest conditions but to market requirements and advances in harvesting methods. A free exchange of information between private and public agencies undertaking surveys must be encouraged.

Now, if that were going on to the extent that you would have us believe, I don't think the registered professional foresters in the Province of Ontario would find it necessary to keep saying those things. So that is why I said earlier in my remarks that I think that to some extent I had been had. I was led to believe that all of these things were, in fact, going on. To continue:

Forest access: Good access is fundamental to efficient protection, sound forest management and economical timber harvesting. Outdoor recreation of the type demanded by most people also requires ease of access. The association therefore advocates generally that a system of permanent and ready access be given high priority in forest land development.

And that gets back to what I said earlier about making it attractive for prime licence holders to use unused allowable cut. And I don't think anybody either in the industry or this ministry will deny that there are tens of thousands of cords of good fibre if there was proper access. If we have to assist them to provide that access I think that we can justify that kind of incentive to the extent that it is necessary in order to get in there and use that wood. I think that if you do that we will be much closer to providing the fibre needs for all of the people who are in the industry today and those who would like to get into it. I think that what the professional foresters have to say in that regard makes a lot of good sense.

Another thing that struck my fancy was:

Land use for wood production, both in public and private ownership, must produce efficiently, on a sustained or increased perpetual yield basis, in order to meet the increasing demand forecast for wood products. This means more intensive silvicultural practices and more efficient harvesting, more complete utilization and better marketing. At the same time the productivity of the soil, which forms the basis for all renewable resource crops, must be maintained or improved.

The association supports the promotion of a very close planning and working relationship between government agencies responsible for forest management and forest industries operating on Crown land. To ensure the best use of available wood, the association encourages the fullest possible utilization standards and the integration of harvesting and processing of forest products. Good harvesting objectives are to use as much as possible of the individual tree as well as to utilize all species.

That is not only to catch up on the backlog but try to keep pace with the amount of acreage that is being harvested each year.

Regeneration and silviculture: Having regard to the rapidly increasing demand for forest products, including non-timber resources associated with forest lands, the association believes that all such lands, both public and private, that are presently idle and capable of producing economic and social benefits should be put to use.

We have many areas in northern Ontario in weed species, particularly around communities where they have just been allowed to spring up. As a result of this the forest land is going idle and unproductive. I think the same can be said for many areas in eastern

Ontario—that indeed is the case, as I mentioned before the dinner break. In many instances, the lands are potentially much more productive than any that we have in areas where we are practising reforestation.

The assignment of priorities for planting or other regeneration and for silvicultural treatment should be the subject of careful planning by professional foresters . . .

I want to highlight that because I've had discussions with professional foresters. They feel that while forestry technicians are playing an important role in the industry and in the ministry, they are not capable of making the kinds of decisions that can be made only by professional foresters.

I'm not saying that the technicians don't have their place, but I am suggesting to you that it is important that we get the kind of people in the field making the right decisions. I don't think that you can leave it to somebody who spent a couple of years at a forestry school and expect that he is going to go out and do the same kind of job that a professional forester is going to do.

High priority should be given to those regions close to centres of population, to areas with large forest industry investments, and to areas within ready access.

I think this is absolutely essential too because as I mentioned earlier, many, many companies are all too prone to highgrading within a ready distance of the mill. Obviously it's in their interest to do that to maximize profits and to keep expenses down. But it doesn't necessarily say that the limits that have been entrusted to them are being properly managed.

I think that since there has been so much highgrading close to the mill and close to centres of population those are the areas that you should concentrate on for your regeneration projects.

Where timber production is the main purpose of forest land management, the association's view is that highest priority for regeneration and for silvicultural treatments should be given to those sites which are presently or potentially of greatest productivity and readiest access. The association also supports the principle that regeneration and silvicultural treatments and priorities should include other uses of forest land, especially recreation, watershed protection and wildlife management.

Forests should be developed and managed with the ease of protection from various injurious agencies in mind. All regeneration and silvicultural treatments

should be carried out with future as well as present management needs considered.

The final thing that was advocated by the association that I want to draw to your attention was that it:

. . . endorses the consolidation of forest holdings, by exchange or other suitable means, where this will permit owners or licensees to protect and manage forest lands with greater efficiency and economy.

Since many other jurisdictions, such as Quebec, New Brunswick and Newfoundland, have decided to do away with licensing huge areas to individual companies, they are going to undertake a plan of complete management of the total resource, and I suspect that they will allocate it to the various users, having regard for their requirements of species and volumes, and do it on a volume agreement basis. The minister did sort of hint, without saying so, that if that was necessary it is the kind of thing that he would be getting into.

Because of the need for additional fibre, and if we are going to approach the 90 per cent figure that he mentioned with regard to annual cut, it seems to me that you are going to have to have a much closer handle on the resource, know where it is, and know what the needs of each individual company are and to what extent they are being under-utilized. I don't know how you are going to do it unless you do it either on a volume agreement basis or you have a complete review of all of the licences, having regard for inventory and all of the other things, and then rearrange the boundaries in a way that you can assure the users that they are going to have a ready supply on a sustained basis.

That is about all I have to say with regard to the management of the resource from a philosophical point of view, and I would like some kind of an assurance from the ministry that you will come clean. I'm sure that if you are able to convince me that the resource is being well managed, the first thing you are going to have to do is to assure the professional foresters that you are, in fact, doing the kinds of things that they have advocated that you do.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Chairman, if I may comment briefly, I want to make it very clear that it is the professional forester who does the planning for any management unit in any management area and it is the forest technician who implements that plan. In no way is a person who is not totally qualified allowed or even able to go into those management plans to which you refer. Certainly, we will follow this line. This has been the

line of thinking of the ministry all along and we have no intention of changing it.

I think I indicated that we were watching other jurisdictions. We will continue to watch other jurisdictions and see how they make out. We are not locked into the plan which we have today, for ever and ever. I mentioned the Algonquin Forest Authority as one area we will be dealing with very carefully, just to see how we can, on a broad basis, manage resources with every due consideration for the environment, the economic and social impact of a wood resource on a specific area. I say to you these are ongoing studies and reviews. It is well engrained within the ministry and we will continue it, but the professional forester does have the final input with regard to any management plan that exists for the resource.

Mr. Stokes: Why would they find it necessary to call this to our attention if, in fact, it was being done?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think within a few years they would like to see more foresters engaged. This is a fair statement. They would like us to have fewer forest technicians and more foresters. I suppose we would like that too, if we had the funds.

Mr. Lockwood says that one of their requirements was that we would implement in legislation or regulation that a forester would do the management, and we are doing this anyway. It is really not necessary. It was a policy long before I came into the ministry, that the profession of forestry would be management.

Mr. Stokes: All right. I don't think you have ever made it clear how many acres you gave treatment to during 1973. I am at a disadvantage. I am working on the last figures that were available to me, and that was for 1972.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Lockwood will read that out to you.

Mr. J. W. Lockwood (Executive Director, Division of Forests): The 1973-1974 total acres regenerated were 143,382 and site preparation for 1973-974, was 74,586 acres.

Mr. Stokes: Is it accurate to say that we harvested 400,000 acres in the Province of Ontario?

Mr. Lockwood: I can give you that figure in just a moment, Mr. Stokes, if you wish. Forest tending was 131,255 acres.

Mr. Stokes: What does tending mean?

Mr. Lockwood: Release treatments, tending and improvements and other methods of dealing with the timber stands themselves.

Mr. Stokes: That is not regeneration.

Mr. Lockwood: It is not regeneration.

Mr. Stokes: That is just thinning out present stands and cutting out cull species and so on.

Mr. Lockwood: Improving growth on existing stands. In 1973-1974 the area cut was 453,000 acres.

Mr. Stokes: You haven't broken that down as to how much was cut on licensed areas as opposed to Crown management areas?

Mr. Lockwood: I don't have that with me, Mr. Stokes, but we have it available.

Mr. Stokes: On the basis of the latest figures you have given me and including the tending, which is 134,000 acres, in some fashion or other you are treating 350,000 acres and you are cutting 450,000 acres, so that there is a shortfall of 100,000 acres on an annual basis. How do you hope to get caught up on the backlog, if you are not even maintaining your relative position?

Mr. Lockwood: First of all, Mr. Stokes, we realize that there is a shortfall and this is part of our forest production policy, to close the gap between what should be treated and what was actually treated. In respect to 1973-1974, it is our estimate that 332,000 acres actually required regeneration treatment.

Mr. Foulds: Excuse me, how do you arrive at that estimation when you are cutting almost 100,000 acres more than that?

Mr. Lockwood: How do we arrive at this figure?

Mr. Foulds: Yes. You said your estimation of the acreage that needed treatment was somewhere around 333,000 acres.

Mr. Lockwood: Yes.

Mr. Foulds: And yet you are cutting 453,000.

Mr. Lockwood: That is correct.

Mr. Foulds: Why in your estimation do you allow that gap of almost 100,000 acres?

Mr. Lockwood: That comes about by going to each management unit in each district and getting from it the projection of

what it sees in the way of cutting taking place in its area. This, again, is summarized at the regional level. Each and every management unit indicates from individual personal knowledge of the stands which will require specialized treatment, other than planting, to regenerate the forests. So, we start out with a gross figure of 453,000 acres to be cut, deduct those areas that will regenerate themselves or will regenerate naturally, and end up with an area to be treated.

Mr. Havrot: It depends on the type of species, too, does it not, and the ground conditions? I have seen areas where we have cut out poplar and have had beautiful poplar stands, while 300 ft from the area the poplar is just absolutely rotten. It just depends on the ground conditions, the soil conditions. There's no reforestation for poplar, is there?

Mr. Lockwood: There is very little.

Mr. Havrot: Do you have a programme for poplar reforestation? There is a lot of that planted, and the same with birch.

Mr. Lockwood: Spruce was—

Mr. Havrot: Spruce, black or white?

Mr. Lockwood: Both.

Mr. Stokes: All right, I realize there are certain areas that will regenerate by themselves as well or better than you can do it, but it isn't necessarily in the species that you want for a particular area. While I have those figures, it would indicate that you still have to reforest at least a minimum of 120,000 acres a year in order to catch up on the backlog.

You have said that you have treated 351,000 acres. I just want to remind you of how much more you are going to have to treat when you get from 50 per cent utilization to 90 per cent. If you think you did well in conning the Treasury out of \$2.1 million, you know you are going to have to be much, much more persuasive—and you may or may not agree with me—but these people down here in Queen's Park figure that because there is greater utilization and more activity in the forest industries that all is well, and that the situation will pretty well look after itself.

It's ever so important that we place more emphasis on the things we have been talking about tonight than it ever was before, because when you had 40 to 43 per cent utilization, you could afford to make mistakes

and you could afford to mismanage or not manage at all.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We were aware of this two years ago when we brought in this 10-year programme.

Mr. Stokes: I would have hoped that you would have been able to persuade your cabinet colleagues to provide much in excess of the \$2.1 million that you were able to get out of them for this very thing. As you well know, the economy of all of northern Ontario depends to a much greater extent on our ability to manage the forest industry than any other undertaking, and that includes mining, too. When you get the kind of values that you are going to be extracting from our forests as a result of recent announcements, I don't want people to be sitting in this room—or some other room in this complex—40 years from now asking, "What happened to our forest industries? You know, we have ghost towns all over the north as a result of our inability to plan in the way that we should have planned."

Now, I am not saying that you are not planning; I am saying you must be that much more persuasive with your cabinet colleagues to put the emphasis where it is needed now so that people can look back in the year 2020, 2030 or 2040 and say, "Thank God they did something away back when." And that's my reason for being so critical; because I can see it happening. And a lot of the things that I was led to believe were going on weren't happening.

If you can give assurances on this to those vitally interested in the industry and in the ministry—because there are people I've talked to in the ministry who are just as concerned; in fact, they are even more concerned than I am, because they are much more knowledgeable than I am.

If you can make that kind of commitment—that you are really going to put the pressure on down here and persuade your cabinet colleagues to put this emphasis on these kinds of things where it is so badly needed, you'll be doing a great service, not only for the people in northern Ontario and not only for the most important industry in the north, but to the entire economy of this province. And I hope that you will take these comments seriously and do much more than you have been doing in the past.

Mr. Havrot: You are talking of some 400-odd-thousand acres now. Does this include rock, swamp—the whole works—or is this strictly a productive area? I don't imagine it

would be a productive area. It would be a general acreage of the area, including rock, swamp and so forth.

Mr. Lockwood: No, these are not acres, Mr. Havrot. These are acres that are cut over.

Mr. Havrot: For example, if you remove spruce out of a swamp area, you are not going to reforest that.

Mr. Stokes: Why not?

Mr. Havrot: It won't grow, not in the second growth. I've seen it; it'll turn sour before it grows—depending on the swamp conditions.

You were also mentioning decisions at Queen's Park—and this gentleman mentioned earlier—that the decisions were reached by the district foresters in the areas. They know their areas quite well, and they send in their reports to Queen's Park where they are evaluated. Decisions are based on the wisdom of the district forester, who submits his plan to Queen's Park.

Mr. Foulds: You may not have adequate staff to actually do an accurate assessment.

Mr. Havrot: Oh, adequate staff! We were just complaining about having all the forestry staff—a complement of what, 790?

Mr. Foulds: You were complaining about that?

Mr. Havrot: No, I wasn't complaining about it. The others were complaining about all the staff they had and what they were doing.

Mr. Foulds: The unit foresters?

Mr. Havrot: Foresters and technicians.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You should have been here for that discussion.

Mr. Haggerty: Probably. I think we needed Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Foulds: I am not even a member of this committee.

Mr. Haggerty: There weren't enough.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You're not a member of this committee?

Mr. Foulds: No.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You're not?

Mr. Havrot: What the hell were they doing? What were they all doing?

Mr. Stokes: You don't have 700 professional foresters. You have 191 foresters.

Mr. Havrot: That's right; and the balance are technicians. That's what I just said.

Mr. Stokes: No, you didn't say it.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty, do you have something to add to this tonight?

Mr. Haggerty: No, I haven't; I have nothing more to add to this.

Mr. Foulds: I just want to pick up one or two points mentioned by my colleague, Mr. Stokes; because I don't want this to escape. I noticed the staff beside the minister was nodding in agreement when Mr. Stokes mentioned the increasing importance of regeneration and reforestation when you are going to the 90 per cent limit. It almost seemed as if you wanted to comment on that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I thought you were coming to Mr. Havrot's—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Sorry. I thought it was Mr. Havrot's remark that you were going to comment on.

Mr. A. J. Herridge (Assistant Deputy Minister, Resources and Recreation): Mr. Chairman, before coming back to the point raised by Mr. Foulds, the question of regeneration of spruce in swamp areas is one of the areas where our research is being concentrated. The swamps represent a highly productive area, but one in which we have yet to find the totally satisfactory means of regenerating spruce. And when you get up into the claybelt country, this represents a substantial acreage of productive land and our research people, in co-operation with the federal research people, are devoting a good deal of effort to this.

Mr. Stokes commented on the increasing importance of the total regeneration programme in the light of the industrial expansion that has either been committed or is in the planning stages. Certainly we agree with this observation because, as the minister pointed out, our production policy was initiated before the current wave of industrial expansions, and we—

Mr. Stokes: Right.

Mr. Herridge: —projected certain targets and needs based on the level of utilization at that point in time towards the year 2020. Without going into all of the details, the

net effect of industrial expansions announced and proposed has been to shorten the time frame as between now and when we are going to need more. So obviously the extent to which we are using the allowable cut means we are going to have to address ourselves to an increased regeneration programme. And this is being built into or added on to our existing timber production policy.

Mr. Stokes: Right, because on the basis of the utilization even four years ago, it was quite obvious to you that you were going to have to do the very things you are doing now.

Mr. Herridge: Right.

Mr. Stokes: When you almost double that, it becomes so much more important that you get on with a much more realistic treatment programme in order just to keep pace.

Mr. Herridge: Understood.

Mr. Foulds: Are you looking at the possibility—I have heard it expressed by some foresters—that natural generation is, of course, the best kind of generation, and of block cutting, and enforcing that kind of thing on licensees, so that the natural generation in the adjacent block can take place more easily and readily? Are you looking along those lines to make sure that that is done more often in the future than has been in the past?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: You are referring to strip cutting?

Mr. Foulds: Yes, strip cutting.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, That is something we've moved into aggressively within the last couple of years, to force some of these people to leave live, strong.—

Mr. Foulds: Stands, right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —viable stands that will regenerate the area that they have cut out in between.

Mr. Foulds: Are you thinking of making it a condition in any licences that you issue in the future?

Mr. Herridge: It is not so much a reflection on the licence as on certain site conditions—

Mr. Foulds: I see.

Mr. Herridge: —certain forest conditions on which you may have shallow soils, over bedrock, in which if you totally clear large expanses, then the area will dry out and will not regenerate. And there the practice

would be to go into, as you've mentioned, strip cutting. And as we identify these areas that are being cut over, then the intent is to require that they be cut in a manner that will bring about natural regeneration.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2204 carried?

Mr. Haggerty: I just want one point here clarified, Mr. Chairman, and that's directed to the minister. In your announcement that you are increasing the stumpage dues now to the pulp and paper and lumbering industries in Ontario—is this an indication that you are changing your methods of procedure of calculation for stumpage dues—that you are going to reflect them in the market price of lumber and pulp and paper?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If you recall, a statement made in the budget speech given by my colleague the Treasurer, the Hon. John White, indicated that the first step would be to double the Crown stumpage dues, which has already been done.

And the next phase, the second part, would be that he and I would go into an in-depth study as to tying the stumpage for the return to the Crown to some form of profit.

Mr. Haggerty: Based upon profit and market conditions of the day.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Marketing conditions, yes. I think the thought was that the lumber market and the pulp market fluctuate up and down so readily. You recall just two or three years ago they were at an all-time low,

Mr. Haggerty: Now they are at an all-time high.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They were knocking at our door for us to do something, and give them some form of assistance. And now, of course, it's at an all-time high we couldn't do it, but if it were tied to profits it would fluctuate.

Mr. Haggerty: That's what I meant by reflecting marketing conditions.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: In other words, then, there will be additional revenue coming into the province, to the Revenue minister (Mr. Meen) or to Mr. White's ministry, and surely then you should be making a request to his ministry for an additional amount of money here to carry out a good effective reforestation-regeneration programme in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We have one going now, and we will keep it going and maybe even accelerate it.

Mr. Haggerty: But to make the improvements that are needed—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. I don't think there is any thought of a new system that we could come up with whereby we would be getting less than the \$28 million we've got now, at this point in time, using that as the figure. We'd just double it, so we'd have to get in that neighbourhood or even more.

Mr. Haggerty: Good enough.

Mr. Foulds: I have a matter which I believe my colleague touched on this afternoon. I don't want to cover any ground that has already been covered with the Laidlaw volume agreement around Thunder Bay. But I would like to know what response the ministry has made to the three resolutions passed by the committee of the Thunder Bay Forest Products Association. I imagine those resolutions were forwarded to you. I could read them, if that is necessary to refresh your memory, and I think it would—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't have it with me.

Mr. Foulds: Well, then—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Lockwood says he hasn't seen them yet.

Mr. Foulds: They have not been forwarded to you? My goodness, they were passed at the meeting, Jack, in early April, shortly after the minister had sent the letter to Mr. Stokes and myself outlining some of the situations. Perhaps, then—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Outlining the situation in detail.

Mr. Foulds: No.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: On April 18.

Mr. Foulds: April 18, which was a week after—what did I say?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Outlining some of the details.

Mr. Foulds: —some of the details, not all. I was right, you are wrong.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Always wrong, always wrong.

Mr. Foulds: We are both partially right. The first resolution was this:

Whereas the Thunder Bay Forest Products Association is concerned that the

Laidlaw volume agreement would adversely affect the members of the association; Whereas the association is concerned that traditional buyers will find themselves with inadequate supplies of wood; Be it resolved that the association requests that the ministry issue permits to members of the association during the 1974-1975 season without requiring contracts from any specified purchaser.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We've agreed to go as far as the month of August, as I mentioned earlier.

Mr. Foulds: The month of August with Abitibi?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, because Laidlaw requires a fresh cut. In other words the trees must be cut within a three-month period.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, I understand that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They won't be able to go into production until late fall, say. They are free to go the route they've been normally going until August of this year and they've all been notified to that effect.

Mr. Foulds: But you are not willing to extend that for the entire 1974-1975 season?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't think we can in view of the fact we've committed that volume to Laidlaw. It's a \$10 million development and it is going to employ 208 people. As I said earlier, we would not let Laidlaw use their monopoly position to force the price down. I think that's the key point.

Mr. Foulds: What tools do you have to keep—what forms of friendly persuasion do you have?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think friendly persuasion is the right remark because MacMillan Bloedel is a pretty responsible Canadian company and we feel very—

Mr. Foulds: Except they pulled out of Saskatchewan in the same circumstances after about 10 years.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think they'd pull out of BC, too, if they could.

An hon. member: Even the people are pulling out of there.

Mr. Foulds: No, just hold on a minute. They pulled out of Saskatchewan after having the kind of agreement that Laidlaw has in Thunder Bay. After they had taken all the accessible wood they quietly folded

their Aspenite plant and moved away. Two questions arise out of that—have you finally got the word? Can you give me the reason?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Certainly friendly persuasion would be the answer. We also direct where they will be cutting on the Crown management units so there'll be no high-grading, as the member for Thunder Bay referred to several times this afternoon, which is when they cut in close and just harvest that.

Mr. Foulds: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We will direct them so there's a balanced cut right around the whole area. Mr. Drysdale was in Saskatchewan and I would like him to comment on what he found when he went there to look at it because we do examine other jurisdictions very carefully. We don't think we have all the brains in Ontario but we have most of them.

Mr. Foulds: Except at the ministerial level.

Mr. D. P. Drysdale (Director, Timber Sales Branch): Mr. Chairman, I would like to make the remark that MacMillan Bloedel has not pulled out of Saskatchewan; it is still in operation at Hudson Bay. It has doubled the size of the plant there and is quite happy with that operation.

Mr. Foulds: Did it change the type of operation it had?

Mr. Drysdale: No, it added a new line which was less labour intensive than the first line and put it on a much sounder basis. It's a really good waferboard or flakeboard type of operation.

Mr. Stokes: Highly automated?

Mr. Drysdale: I wouldn't say it was highly automated. This type of mill is quite a labour-intensive mill for the volume of wood it uses. This is one of the reasons our ministry is attracted toward particleboard or flakeboard type mills; they do provide a large amount of employment for the volume of wood they consume.

Mr. Foulds: Am I correct in understanding that the agreement the lumber and saw union has with Laidlaw is for 208 men, both inside and outside workers?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know that—

Mr. Foulds: I think most people assume the 208 figure we hear mentioned is for the

inside workers but it is my understanding that is inside and outside.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't know. That's the figure we were given in the planning of the overall project.

Mr. Foulds: You don't have any specifics on that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I don't have a breakdown of whether it's inside or outside.

Mr. Foulds: I see. That gets me into the second resolution they passed:

Whereas the association is concerned that the present traditional users have a guarantee that they will receive their economic supplies of wood; And whereas there is a major existing investment in mills, equipment and jobs; Be it resolved that the association requests the ministry to immediately indicate who the traditional users are and where economic sources of wood will be located by the Crown for such traditional users and buyers.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: That will be done at the local level. As I said earlier, we will direct where they will be cutting. I don't see that much change because I'm sure Laidlaw will be relying on those small contractors to cut and deliver to the plant X number of cords of hardwood from the Crown management unit.

Mr. Foulds: Yes.

Mr. Stokes: Except if you're going to allow Laidlaw to cut within ready access to the mill and say to the little guy, "You go out to the other end of Northern Light Lake and you bring us in wood and we'll pay you what it costs us to produce our own wood" there's no way.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No.

Mr. Stokes: That's the kind of thing. If you're talking about a periphery 100 miles or whatever from Thunder Bay all right, the little guy just might have a fair chance. But if you're going to allow Laidlaw to highgrade around the mill and make the little guy go way out and compete after a 50-mile or a 75-mile truck haul, you know what's going to happen.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Herridge tells me that Laidlaw have no intention of getting into the operation themselves. They do intend to depend on the smaller operators.

Mr. Herridge: At least that's our information, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Foulds: The information that seems to have filtered through to me is they were going to rely on a combination of getting into the operation itself and using the—but I'm talking about the traditional sawmill operators as in the minister's letter to me—Mr. Stokes received the same letter, I believe, because we both expressed concern about it. I must congratulate the minister on his initiative in writing to us before we wrote to him.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Other members in the area were equally concerned. The member for Rainy River (Mr. Reid) was concerned, as was the member for Fort William (Mr. Jessiman).

Mr. Foulds: Yes, I'm sure of that. In that letter you mentioned 24 small sawmills. Presumably they will be assured of a continuation of their traditional supply but the difficulty or the anxiety they seemed to express in this second resolution I read to you is it has not been made clear to them who is considered to be the traditional—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, were they getting their volumes of wood from Crown lands or not? Many of them were buying and obtaining and obtaining their sources of supply from private wood lots, as in the case of Mr. Wayne Seaman, who came to me some time ago to set up a small mill.

Mr. Foulds: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I indicated clearly at that time, and I put it in writing to him, that in no way could we guarantee him any timber from Crown land, because it had already been allocated to other people in that area, namely Laidlaw's. But if he felt he could get a source of supply from private woodlots, then he was free to go ahead. Those people who want to go beyond the private woodlot may well be in trouble.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, but the difficulty is that—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They like to expand; I realize that.

Mr. Foulds: —you have given assurances that the traditional users would be given their supply, but you haven't defined—at least, their information was that at that point you hadn't defined—who you considered to be the traditional users.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Those people who traditionally get their wood from Crown lands would be guaranteed a continuous flow of timber from those areas. But we wouldn't add any new ones, or some major increases

might be withheld. That will be defined by the regions because, as a result of our decentralization process, they now have that responsibility.

Mr. Foulds: Okay. You list 24 small sawmills with a total utilization of 329 in 1971, 620 in 1972, and 664 in 1973; perhaps there is justification for holding the line there, in that they have not risen dramatically in a period of three or four years. But what about Kakabeka Timber Co., which was using 2,480 in 1971, 2,380 in 1972 and then rose dramatically to 11,022 in 1973? You automatically freeze them at that level of production when the indications are that they could have had some kind of reasonable expansion in the future.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Well, I think that's the price we have to pay for the economic development that we have at the Laidlaw mill. We have got a \$10-million expansion and 208 jobs, and we had to weigh it very carefully to gain the greatest economic benefit for that particular area. It may well be that some of it will have to be held back and not be allowed for any further expansion, unless they can get wood from some other source, be it private lands.

Mr. Foulds: I will get to the private lands thing in a minute—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We can't have it both ways.

Mr. Foulds: Well, neither can you, Mr. Minister. The Ministry of Industry and Tourism has invested heavily in Kakabeka Timber with NODC loans; and in order to pay back those loans to the taxpayers of this province it seems to me that they must have reasonable elbow room for expansion. We can't have one ministry giving them money and another ministry restraining them from being able to repay that loan.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: When the NODC makes a loan to these particular firms, we always assure NODC that there will be a source of supply for the amount and the programme which the funds are being applied to—but nothing that would constitute a doubling, a tripling or a quadrupling of the plant as things go ahead. As I said this afternoon, this is the trend today because of the economic upturn in the woods business. Everybody now wants double and triple capacity.

Mr. Foulds: I appreciate that, but it would seem to me that the increase between

1972 and 1973, which is roughly five times for Kakabeka Timber, probably resulted from the influx of NODC funds at that point.

It also seems to me that they need room for at least some moderate expansion to maintain the profit margin and to repay the loan at the same time. Does that not make economic sense? Yet if you are freezing them at that 11,022 figure, they may be able to carry on for four or five years but they may find themselves up against it in five years' time, without the NODC loan being repaid.

Mr. Havrot: When NODC entertains a loan application, it has the firm put in a projection as to what its production and expansion are going to be in that five-year period.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, but interrupting that five-year period has been a ministerial order from this ministry.

Mr. Havrot: There is no interruption; it is just on the volume that they are producing. It is quite simple. If they have a guaranteed volume every year, surely to blazes the NODC isn't going to give them the money unless they are sure they are going to be able to pay it back in the five-year period?

Mr. Foulds: Well, the NODC might not have been aware of the impending agreement by this ministry, which curtails Kakabeka Timber.

Mr. Havrot: I'm sure they check all the licences that each company will have.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They check the list. They check the list on these to make sure they're correct.

Mr. Foulds: I just want to read into the record. I used to cut my own Christmas tree which is about as much forestry experience as I think the member for Maple Mountain has.

An hon. member: We gather that.

Mr. Havrot: I've got news for you, my friend. I was in the business for 16 years so if you want any comparisons I will gladly exchange my experience with yours. Any day.

Mr. Foulds: I wouldn't take the offer because I would be robbed blind.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Chairman: Order. Unless the member has something else to say. Mr. Foulds.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, I have quite a bit to add.

Mr. Chairman: Go on then please.

Mr. T. P. Reid (Rainy River): Would you keep a little order here, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: I'm trying to, Mr. Reid.

Mr. Foulds: The district manager, Mr. Hamilton, indicated in a letter to Mr. Stokes—no, to a Mr. Huston of Pass Lake—that the ministry has indicated to Laidlaw that many small operators produce poplar and that the ministry did not wish them to be displaced by company operations. The company, and I understand this is Laidlaw, has indicated a desire to work with existing producers in addition to conducting their own operations. So there continues to be the fear, I think, by the independent cutters as well, that that portion, if Laidlaw is going to be conducting their own operations that they will eventually get squeezed out.

Mr. Herridge: It may well be that the company wants to keep that option open until such time as it can be content, or satisfied, that the local operators or the local jobbers will, in fact, meet their needs.

Mr. Foulds: You didn't seem to be aware of that, so I thought I would inform you of that.

Mr. Herridge: I appreciate that information.

Mr. Foulds: In the letter to me I am puzzled by the high cordage that was estimated from private lands—60,000 cords of poplar and birch. Maybe I can read the entire paragraph and then help refresh your memory:

The resource staff indicated at that time [that is in late 1972 when MacMillan Bloedel made the overtures to your ministry] that three Crown units at Thunder Bay could support an annual harvest of 10,000 cords of poplar and 38,000 cords of white birch. In addition, there was a potential from private lands of 60,000 cords of poplar and birch.

How do you arrive at that figure? Is that an annual figure?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I did say an inventory was taken by the ministry. I think much of this was going to—

Mr. Foulds: On private lands?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: On private lands

Mr. Lockwood: Abitibi was buying a lot from private lands. This is our estimate of what is available.

Mr. Foulds: You've estimated on what Abitibi has been buying?

Mr. Lockwood: Plus our own knowledge of the area, yes.

Mr. Foulds: But there is no regeneration programme on private lands. That's the one that worries me about it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Not on that species.

Mr. Foulds: Is that an annual amount, this 60,000 cords? In taking that into account you estimate the natural regeneration of those species on private lands, is that correct?

Mr. Herridge: I think that it's safe to say that for the most part poplar is going to regenerate itself whether it be on private or Crown lands.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It doesn't make any difference then.

Mr. Foulds: I'm not questioning that. Naturally you would assume that in the ideological viewpoint of my party it tends to be that private entrepreneurship is rather sterile, but I understand that doesn't apply to—

Mr. Reid: That doesn't apply to poplar.

Mr. Foulds: That doesn't apply to poplar; they're non-ideological and very fertile. I understand that.

Mr. Reid: The ones that are stunted are NDP ones.

Mr. Foulds: What I want to understand, first of all, is that that is an annual figure you've nodded an agreement to and that you took into account a natural regeneration factor in considering it.

Mr. Herridge: Correct.

Mr. Foulds: So there is more potential for the private lands around Thunder Bay than there is from the Crown units? The figure I have is 10,000 cords of poplar and 38,000 cords of white birch from the three Crown units at Thunder Bay and 60,000 cords. In my mathematics that indicates 48,000 cords from Crown units and 60,000 cords from private lands.

Mr. Lockwood: I think there must be some mistake there, Mr. Foulds; it's 90,000 cords

of poplar and 38,000 cords of white birch. That's 128,000 cords.

Mr. Foulds: A typing error.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: A typographical error.

Mr. Foulds: And you signed the letter.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We conned you again.

Mr. Foulds: You conned us again. So that should be 90,000.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Reid's letter was right, I take it.

Mr. Reid: Yes. I double checked it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Right.

Mr. Foulds: And I'm correct then in understanding that by 1975 all the existing mills in Thunder Bay—your projections will be 280,000 cords annually?

Mr. Lockwood: This is a projection of total utilization by all the mills.

Mr. Foulds: Yes, I understand that. That includes Abitibi and that's of poplar and birch. I just want to bring to your attention the third resolution of the Thunder Bay Products Association:

Whereas the association is concerned that traditional producers will not find adequate accessible areas; Be it resolved that the association requests the ministry to immediately initiate a survey to determine where an adequate accessible wood supply can be made available to members of the association so they can continue to cut wood on Crown land as they have in the past for sale on the open market.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: This will be difficult, but Mr. Lockwood says its study is under way already.

Mr. Foulds: What are the difficulties?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Finding the source, because much of it is allocated already, especially in the Thunder Bay Area. As Mr. Stokes pointed out this afternoon, the general economy of the Thunder Bay area is very heavily reliant on the forest industries. So that is one area—

Mr. Foulds: Much more so than mining.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, and that is one area that is harder pressed for the greater usage and demands on wood fibre than anywhere else in Ontario.

Mr. Foulds: I just have two more points. There's a conference going on over there, and if there are any results on it—

Mr. Herridge: As I listened to the resolution, Mr. Foulds, the wording toward the latter part of it was that they would be permitted to continue to cut timber off Crown lands and sell it on the open market. Now, to the extent that they have been, that is that the 24 sawmills are identified as established operators that have traditionally cut off Crown lands, then they are provided for. As far as selling on the open market is concerned, again, if their production is going into one of the existing sawmills, there's no problem.

Mr. Foulds: I see, so that as long as it is going—

Mr. Herridge: Are we talking about sawmill owners and operators who are seeking this additional timber, or jobbers and loggers?

Mr. Stokes: We are talking about those sales where a fellow goes out and he's allowed to cut 2,000 cords of poplar or birch for resale on the open market. He still can't sell those to his traditional buyer. It must be directed to MacMillan Bloedel, and that's the point.

Mr. Foulds: You are not in agreement with that, so that in fact you would not agree to this—

Mr. Herridge: Then we revert to Mr. Lockwood's observation that this survey is on to try and find additional supplies.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds, in all fairness, I think Mr. Stokes covered this quite well this afternoon.

Mr. Foulds: He's egging me on.

Mr. Stokes: No, it was just the three resolutions that you haven't even got, so you couldn't respond to them, eh?

Mr. Foulds: I find that interesting—I just make the comment—that their lawyer had not forwarded that to you.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It might be in the system but it hasn't reached us yet—unless it went to the district office. But it hasn't reached here yet.

Mr. Reid: Jim, are you finished on that point?

Mr. Foulds: I just have one more point to make on this, if I might.

Mr. Chairman: On the same topic?

Mr. Reid: The same topic.

Mr. Foulds: Would it be fair to say that you are going to scramble like hell to find the sources so that the project can be guaranteed continuance, both in terms of finding all the available costs and in reforestation practices, to ensure that the Laidlaw's mill project can continue beyond the 10-year period?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is fair to say that it is going to be a very tight situation at Thunder Bay to assure yourself that the resource is there. We have nothing extra. I think that is a fair way to put it. There is nothing floating around in any excess. We are very much well aware of that to.

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, there is a quorum call and I guess they need us all there.

Mr. Reid: Well, we are just going to walk out again.

Mr. Havrot: Let's call the vote and carry it and we won't have to worry about it.

Mr. Foulds: No, you are not going to carry it.

Mr. Stokes: If you fellows with 76 members can't maintain a quorum in the House, don't come crying to us.

An hon. member: Where are your members?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Foulds: We only have three members on the committee.

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, we will recess until we get this quorum vote fixed up.

Mr. Haggerty: If you go into the House you will have to come back here anyway.

The committee recessed at 9:15 o'clock, p.m. for a quorum call in the House and reconvened at 9:20.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Foulds, have you something else to add to this discussion?

Mr. Foulds: I've finished my remarks, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Now that we have all been waiting, are we ready to carry the vote?

Mr. Reid: No, I have just a few remarks that I would like to make—some of a general nature and some of a more particular nature.

I'd just like to add to what has been going on—

Mr. D. A. Evans (Simcoe Centre): Don't be repetitious.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: He wants to compliment the minister.

Mr. Reid: That wasn't one of the things that I had on my list here.

I think it's interesting, Mr. Chairman, that while you were out and we were waiting for your return that the timber branch people said that what we're looking at is really a coming together of supply and demand in regard to the availability of timber, particularly in northwestern Ontario. I gather that my friend and colleague from Thunder Bay has already indicated that he feels that some of the limits owned by or under control of certain companies are being under-utilized, or the allowable cut on those limits has not been used.

Before I get into that I'd just like to say one thing in regard to the situation pertaining to Laidlaw. This may have come up already, but what in effect has happened is that some of the people who previously were supplying Abitibi and other cutters, are now forced to provide a product in a different form. In other words, I understand that they are now required to haul tree-lengths—they are required to haul them longer distances. What this means in this particular instance is obviously that the money or the profit or wages that they were making for doing this have changed dramatically. In fact some of them may be operating at a loss.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: May I say at this point, the company has already agreed to discussions with the contractors to adjust their size lengths to what they've been used to handling and what can be handled.

Mr. Reid: Have they agreed to adjust their price for the longer hauls that are required?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I haven't heard anything about that yet.

Mr. Reid: What I'm working around to, Mr. Minister, is that the same situation obtains in Fort Frances. Again, O and M or Boise Cascade are at the moment in a monopoly position, as far as almost all species of wood is concerned.

It seems to me that when you make the requirement—and I suppose justly and rightly so. When a company is going to invest \$65 million or \$120 million or whatever the figure has to be, you have to guarantee that

they are going to have the wood to run those plants. But it seems to me that when you put one company in a monopoly position that it's incumbent upon the ministry—I mentioned this in the Legislature before—to then do something to ensure that the independent loggers, cutters and haulers get a fair price for that wood. That fair price is always something that's difficult to arrive at, but when you put Laidlaw or Boise Cascade in the position of being the only buyer and saying to the others, "You have to supply this company," you then put the small independent in a heck of a position. Then the company can dictate the price and they either accept it or they don't and there is no alternative. You've destroyed the so-called free market mechanism.

Up to this point, I don't think your ministry has been involved in price setting and I can understand why not. It is a pretty delicate position. But it seems to me that the ministry should give some indication of what is a fair price and what would be a fair return for these people that you put in that position vis-à-vis the company.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If I may comment briefly on that point. We've been toying within the ministry on a number of avenues we could go. One of them that we've discussed and one which I mentioned publicly in a speech up in Sault Ste. Marie recently, was the fear that the sawmill producers had with regard to the supply of chips to the paper mills. The small operator to which you refer, operating under Crown management unit, was locked into a monopoly position. We have lots of them across the Province of Ontario—

Mr. Reid: I realize that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —because the paper companies based in specific areas of the province must draw from such a large area, they actually become a monopoly purchaser, so that we would give some serious thought to setting up a marketing board. If we felt that they weren't being treated properly, then we would pursue that a little bit further. The Ontario Lumber Manufacturers' Association has been in to see me, as have dozens of small operators, making it very, very clear that they don't feel they are getting their fair increase as the price of newsprint goes up. And it is up to about \$225 a ton now. The cost of operating is increasing and it is not being reflected in their return—

Mr. Reid: You keep putting up the price of gas and licences and everything. Right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: —and the return is not coming to them in a fair way.

I would like to say to you that we are looking at that very, very actively, and that is one route that we could take. It might be a pretty harsh route. Let's be honest, but—

Mr. Reid: Well, I can understand the problems involved, but I don't think it's fair when you have a corporation like MacMillan Bloedel or Boise Cascade, and you've got an association or a few isolated truckers and cutters trying to take them on. It's their only bread and butter and the company is certainly in the driver's seat.

The other thing in that regard is this—and I am going to get parochial here for a moment. I hope that I understood Mr. Lockwood correctly in our conversation during the last little while and that the independent cutters and sawmills in the Fort Frances area will be provided with wood as far as is possible, so they won't be put out of business in the next three to five years, as there was some indication that this might happen. You are nodding so I gather that wood will be found somewhere.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes.

Mr. Reid: Which brings me to the next topic. Mr. Herridge has said the supply and demand is coming closer together. I guess the good old days when we had all the timber any company could use for its mills and it was almost on its doorstep or in its back yard are pretty well gone. At least speaking for my part of the world, northwestern Ontario, it seems to be so.

You know, it is hard to realize, when you drive through it or fly over it, that there could be any shortage of usable timber or wood, but obviously it is so. Some of it isn't the right kind. Some of it isn't the right quality, or the right age. What it amounts to, I suppose, is that companies are going to have to go farther and farther afield to get their wood.

Now, in the case of Dryden Paper, whose expansion was announced in the House about a month ago, and with the Boise Cascade mills at Fort Frances, it seems to me that there could be a rationalization of those limits where you have Dryden Paper going farther north of Dryden and Boise Cascade going right up to Dryden. I wouldn't say there should be an exchange of limits between Boise and Dryden, but between Dryden and

the Crown, perhaps, with Boise getting some of Dryden's limits.

I don't know, quite frankly, the ins and outs of it, but I am sure the minister is aware that Boise Cascade has been screaming long and loud that they don't have enough wood, they are not going to have enough wood, and they are going to have to import it from Manitoba. And it looks like our friends there are closing their borders to us and are not going to allow the export of wood to Ontario. That only leaves the States, pretty well, to get it from. So it seems to me that there has to be some kind of rationalization.

I think part of the indication that there is a problem here is that Boise or O and M in Fort Frances has been running ads in the paper trying to get the Quetico limits reopened.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Really?

Mr. Reid: Really, Mr. Minister. I wouldn't kid you about that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I wasn't aware of that. They can run all the ads they want, I am afraid. They are wasting their money.

Mr. Reid: They have been running ads in the newspaper saying they have to have so much allowable cut to open this mill, and the nicest and easiest place would be Quetico Park. You must give them an "A" for effort and credit for being consistent and persistent. But I leave that with the minister because I think that we are going to run into some severe problems there. It seems to me kind of rationalization should take place here and I would hope that the ministry is working on something like that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think it is fair to say that the present mills at Fort Frances and Kenora do have an assurance of wood supply on the basis of their investment there. The future for the Anglo-Canadian expansion is north of Red Lake.

Mr. Reid: But where is Boise Cascade going to get its limits then?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: For?

Mr. Reid: For a sustained yield for the mills at Fort Frances in particular.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They have it now.

Mr. Reid: They say that they haven't got enough and won't have enough. Is that because they are not cutting on a sustained yield basis on the limits they do have?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Herridge will answer that.

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Chairman, I think the concern that Boise has at the moment has more to do with the potential for its supplies coming from Manitoba and Minnesota being cut off. They would like to use both the full allowable cut on the licences they hold in Ontario and have enough of a cushion available to them in the event that their sources did dry up in either Manitoba or Minnesota. In our discussions to date with them we have explained that if they want the additional wood, then we are in difficulty trying to find it.

Mr. Reid: But what would happen if all their wood is cut off from Manitoba and Minnesota? Does that mean effectively that they are going to be short of wood?

Mr. Herridge: No, I think our data would indicate that there is enough available now to cover off that potential, plus the fact that if they would make increasing use of poplar they wouldn't have any problem. But this doesn't provide them the opportunity to expand any of their existing facilities, and I think that is the rub.

Mr. Reid: Is there any way that a swap, if that is the word, can be made with Dryden Paper so that they would be in such a position?

Mr. Herridge: This is certainly worth looking at. But it is only fair to point out that the ministry has made a commitment to the Dryden Company with respect to their proposal for expanding existing facilities as well as adding new capacity. Unless we could make a replacement to Dryden that didn't jeopardize its plant, then it would appear unlikely that we could take wood from Dryden and make it available for Boise's plant.

Mr. Reid: Is there not enough wood north of Dryden in the Ear Falls-Red Lake area? I realize it would be more expensive wood than what they have now but some pricing arrangement might be available there too. We would like to see the property expanded in the Fort Frances area also, if possible, to provide jobs.

Mr. Stokes: Not only in Conservative ridings.

Mr. Reid: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Hear, hear.

Mr. Stokes: Like Kenora and Fort William.

Mr. Reid: It seems to me that we are in a pretty arbitrary position and if there aren't some decisions made on this pretty soon, there won't be any opportunity at all for them to expand. That is really what you are saying, isn't it?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: The same thing occurred as was pointed out earlier this afternoon, with the Domtar mill at Red Rock. It has just come to a point that they are not using their allowable cut now. It is a little different circumstance but they had a major problem. In fact, they came to us with a major expansion programme wanting us to direct fibre to them. We just couldn't, so they had to go back to the drawingboard. It may well curtail their expansion plans. If the wood is not there, it is not there, and that is it.

Dryden has come up with a very attractive programme of utilizing the wood in the Red Lake and Ear Falls area, something that we have been advocating for years to get something interesting going in that area.

Mr. Reid: Would it be possible to give them more wood in that area and give Boise some of the wood they have that is closer in the immediate Dryden area? If Boise is willing to pay the excess transportation costs, some arrangement could be made that way. What you are saying right now to Boise in Fort Frances is you have gone as far as you can go and that's it.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I think we have to accept the fact that these mills will reach a capacity level. If we don't have the fibre, how can we go along allowing expansion for ever and ever and a day? We can keep the existing plant going, as Mr. Herridge has pointed out, but to—

Mr. Reid: Yes, I realize that, Mr. Minister, but what I'm saying is that supposedly at some point or other Dryden Paper is going to be expanding in the north there, in any case. Why not do it sooner than later and give Boise a chance to expand their mills now, if they are so inclined? Because if you allow Dryden to continue cutting the way they are, that will not be available for Boise Cascade because it will be cut.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is something that can be studied if the point in time comes that they want that type, but it may have to be worked out between the two companies. That's the only problem, because there are certain economics tied—

Mr. Reid: Yes, I understand that. You know, incidentally I would just like to—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Do you want to compliment the minister on the picture?

Mr. Reid: Which one? I like the one on the right better. Are you the fellow with the hat on there? You are about the same size, I think. Same type of expression.

Mr. Chairman: Have you something more to offer?

Mr. Reid: Yes, I certainly do. I just want to add—Mr. Fleming of Dornier in The Forest Scene, May-June 1974; the title of the article is: "Forest Industry Challenged To Make Most of Resources," and the last paragraph of the article is:

Recalling the controversy over logging in Quetico Park, Mr. Fleming described it as, "A most educational experience. We certainly lost that battle, but I am convinced that we shall win the war. It won't be a bloody confrontation but a meeting of minds when reasonable people are ready to embrace the concept of integrated use of forests."

Hon. Mr. Bernier: To answer that, Mr. Foulds could read the letter he received from Mr. Fleming, which explained it very, very carefully.

Mr. Foulds: I don't have it with me.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I am sorry you don't.

Mr. Reid: O and M hasn't given up anything.

I just have one more matter which I raised at the very beginning of the estimates. We didn't get a chance to go into it at great length and I won't go into it at great length because I've discussed this with you at some length. But I would like to know if any decision has been made in regard to the possibilities of a mill in Atikokan?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: No, we are still waiting for a Boise Cascade proposal.

Mr. Reid: I thought that proposal was in.

Mr. Stokes: You assured us this afternoon that something was definitely going in there.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes. There is going to be a mill going in there. There are two choices—we are waiting for their proposal in writing. And I was told this afternoon—

Mr. Reid: I was under the impression that you were supposed to have that proposal at least two weeks ago.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: They went to their board of directors with their proposal. They came and discussed it with us and we asked them to put it in writing to us, so we can compare the two. And that—was it mailed?

Mr. Lockwood: It was supposed to be in the mail last Friday.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It was supposed to be in the mail last Friday.

Mr. Reid: And how long will it take you to make a decision after that?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Twenty-four hours.

Mr. Reid: It will be?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Or less.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Minister, I am sure that you know the Wisconsin firm that would like to put in the plant in Atikokan is supposedly, I am told, on the verge of changing its mind because they have been getting the runaround so long from your ministry. And they can put their money and resources elsewhere.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We are well aware of that situation.

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, we have another quorum call. Can we recess for another five minutes and go in?

The committee recessed at 9:40 o'clock, p.m., for a quorum call in the House and reconvened at 9:45.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Reid, would you proceed?

On vote 2204:

Mr. Reid: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think I am pretty well finished, except that I just want to reiterate my concern that a decision be made on this matter, in regard to whether it is Pluswood's from Wisconsin or Boise Cascade.

Again, I would like to reiterate also that it is important, I think, from my point of view and for the people of Atikokan, that a specific date for the construction or start-up of the plant be given, because, if things do go so badly—and we hope they won't—with regard to kaolin and Steep Rock, it won't do the town all that much good if it becomes a semi ghost town or if it loses 1,000 or 2,000 in population and then has to go looking for people two, or three, or five years later when the plant comes into operation. So I would hope that by next week you will

have made a decision on one or the other and they will be given a particular timetable to start up.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: As soon as we have their proposals we will be at it immediately, you have my assurance on that.

Mr. Stokes: There are a couple of small things. Does anybody else want to say anything more?

Mr. Chairman: Do you have anything further, Mr. Reid?

Mr. Reid: No, that's all.

Mr. Stokes: There are a couple of small things that I want to get into and one has to do with the tender for site preparation. A tender call went out several weeks ago for a silvicultural work programme in the Nipigon district, and it is a four-year deal on licences presently held by the St. Lawrence Corp. and the Abitibi Paper Co.—for 1974, 5,600 acres; for 1975, 7,100 acres; for 1976, 8,500 acres; and for 1977, 9,800 acres. Now, they specifically require a Clark Ranger skidder model 880. It has been brought to my attention, and I was asked to raise it in these estimates, that there are many suppliers of this kind of equipment, particularly one who manufactures this right in Thunder Bay. The chap who brought it to my attention says, and I quote:

I feel no tender should specify the equipment by brand name. They specify Clark Ranger. Why not Timberjack or Tree Farmer skidders, which, incidentally, most timber companies use? It seems rather obvious that they have somebody in mind. It excludes everybody else who may have other kinds of skidders from bidding. The ad should read, "Articulated wheel skidders, drawbar horsepower," etc. I especially favour the Tree Farmer as they are produced locally by Canadian Car.

I realize that you've been less than successful with a lot of your site preparation and your scarification programmes, because some of them just don't do a job. I understand that the only place that the Clark skidder has been tested is in New Brunswick, and maybe the terrain is quite a bit different from the areas that you're going to treat here.

All things being equal and having to do with the horsepower of the thing and the nature of the mechanism that it is going to be drawing in order to perform this scarification work, why don't you favour machines that are made locally to provide increased

employment and a sort of ripple effect?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, that's a good point. In fact, those ads have come to my attention on a number of occasions. I've asked our people at the local level to make sure when they specify a piece of equipment that they say "or equivalent."

Mr. Stokes: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: If that's not in the ad we will make sure that it is in the ad.

Mr. Stokes: It's not.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, we will certainly check that out.

Mr. Stokes: It says the equipment required will be the Clark skidder, FMC model 200 CA or a combination of both. It mentions that type specifically. I just think that you're adding problems if you seem to be favouring one particular model over another. People are going to say, there's only one fellow who's got that kind of model because they're not widely used, so of necessity he's going to be the only one who will qualify.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I like your suggestion of a drawbar horsepower and the year of the piece of equipment. I think it's fair to say we get some drawbar horsepower—100 horsepower or something at the drawbar—yet it's five or six years old and it's broken down half the time. In some instances we would specify the year of the equipment, no later than, say, two years old or something. That is something we can certainly correct.

Mr. Stokes: On the acquisition and construction of physical assets, you've got \$100,000 here.

Mr. Reid: Those are outdoor privies.

An hon. member: Two-holers.

Mr. Havrot: With handles and fur-lined seats.

Mr. Lockwood: This is some capital investment we require at the Angus seed plant to handle more seed and do it more efficiently.

Mr. Stokes: In view of the sad experience that you've had with a lot of your seed and for a number of reasons, dealing with climate, soil conditions and everything else—and I've raised it before and I'm going to raise it again — when most of the seed is going to be sown in areas north of the

French River, why don't you increase your research capacity in the areas where you're going to be using this seed, rather than doing it down here at Angus or Maple and transporting it up there? When you're getting such a poor success rate on many of your regenerated stands, since you do have research capacity—you've got a forestry school in Thunder Bay—why don't you undertake to put more emphasis on that kind of programme, research and the applied work in the areas where these programmes are going to be carried out?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Lockwood is able to answer that question.

Mr. Lockwood: First of all, in terms of research, Mr. Stokes, 50 per cent of our research expenditures are in northern Ontario. We're building up the Angus seed plant. It is a production plant; it is not a research outfit. It's a question of scale. We can do more and we get more bang for a buck by having one efficient plant than by having two or three less efficient plants.

Mr. Stokes: I'm told by the people who actually either plant the trees, your yearlings or your two- or three-year-olds, or those who supervise it, that from the time they are taken out of the ground and from the time that they are stored wherever they're stored, in root houses and things of that nature, to the time they actually get out on to the site, some of the material you're using is in such poor condition that there's just no way you're going to get a high success rate anyway. I don't know whether that happens from your Dryden plantation or from your Fort William plantation, but obviously what you're doing now is less than successful in many, many instances. What are you doing to correct that?

Mr. Lockwood: Across the province, as part of this production policy implementation programme, we are increasing the amount of cold storage facilities we have, making them more efficient and making more of them. In this way we can over-winter trees and they will come out in the spring in better shape than if we were to leave them in the ground in the south or wherever and then transport them 300 to 500 miles in the spring. So we are having troubles and this is the way we are working to solve them.

Mr. Stokes: That is all I have.

Mr. Chairman: Then vote 2204, item 3, is carried?

Agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Did you want to just mention that \$1,000, Mr. Haggerty?

Mr. Haggerty: I wanted, on the previous vote, to speak on the section of mine rescue training there. I noticed a year ago, in the 1972-1973 estimates, you had an estimate of \$1,000 and what was actually spent was \$81,884. Then you dropped down to \$1,000 again in 1973—your estimate has dropped down in 1973-1974 to \$1,000. Now, surely this is one of the most important votes in your estimates, dealing with mine rescue.

I was fortunate enough, on different occasions, to attend the little rescue seminars and competitions that they have at the International Nickel Co. in Port Colborne. They put on quite a display in mine rescue and first aid team competition. They had about three or four teams in the Port Colborne refinery that compete, and then they move into the Sudbury area where they compete with the different plant operations in the Sudbury area that Inco has. They do put on quite a competition, and I might say that they certainly go into quite a bit of rehearsal on it and their training is excellent. I am sure that in the case of any emergency, they would have a sufficient amount of capable employees to perform the necessary rescue in case of mine accident.

Now, perhaps with the expenditure of \$81,000 reduced to \$1,000, there should be some explanation here by the ministry on this particular vote.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Mr. Herridge has the answer to that question.

Mr. Herridge: Mr. Chairman, the difference between the amounts shown—that is, the \$1,000 and the \$81,884—is recovered from the companies. This is a programme that is funded by the companies. The total costs are borne by the companies through billing back from us. The \$1,000 is introduced because it's a statutory amount in the estimates. The mine rescue training programme is funded by the industries.

Mr. Haggerty: By the industries themselves, and of course—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: So all we donate is \$1,000 funding.

Mr. Reid: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could ask your indulgence. I apologize for not being here, but you know how many things are going on in the House at the same time. I have about one minute and I would

like to talk about the commercial fishing. Just one minute.

It's a situation that's probably unique to Rainy Lake and that is we have a very small mercury problem there, and I emphasize that. What has happened is that the commercial fishermen on the Canadian side are not allowed to export their fish to the American side because of the American law in regard to mercury. But the American fishermen are fishing on the same lake, and we know how fish travel, so they are fishing for virtually the same fish. Yet they are allowed to catch them and sell them to their own people in a commercial way.

I know it's difficult because we are dealing with United States federal law, particularly, but it seems a little unfair to Canadian commercial fishermen that they should be cut off from that market when they are, in fact, fishing the same fish, and I don't—

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Is it the Canadian Directorate or the American Food and Drug Administration?

Mr. Reid: I understand it's the American Food and Drug Administration that won't accept them over there.

Mr. Stokes: For export, yes.

Mr. Foulds: Their attitude is, "We will poison ourselves but don't let anybody else poison us."

Mr. Reid: I realize that there is perhaps very little that could be done, but I would hope that maybe the minister could use his good offices and maybe contact his counterparts on the American side to see if they would accept the same fish.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I would be prepared to do that.

Mr. Reid: I appreciate that. Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister, for your indulgence.

Mr. Chairman: This concludes the estimates of—

Mr. Haggerty: Well, Mr. Chairman, I just want one thing clarified. In the beginning, in the lead-off speech, we got into the matter of the Short Hills Provincial Park in Pelham. I have a list of letters from people there, and they are a little bit upset about the present advisory committee report. I asked the minister a question as to how much property the province actually owned there. I believe he said somewhere around about 1,200 to 1,300 acres of land, plus 400 acres that they were going to expropriate from Bramalea developers or other investors in the area.

Now, there are letters that indicate to me that all the land the province owns is 700 acres. Would you search this out and inform me just how large the total is?

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Yes, I don't have the figures with me.

Mr. Haggerty: No, I've made a request to Mr. Keenan to find out.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: We'll get that information back to you.

Mr. Haggerty: All right, I'd appreciate that.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: It is quite a difference—700 to 1,200?

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, that is what they say.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Fine, we will check it out and get back to you.

Mr. Haggerty: They made searches of land titles in the registry office, I guess, and they said they can only come up with 700 acres.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: I will be glad to get back to you.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you very much gentlemen. This completes the estimates of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Hon. Mr. Bernier: Thank you gentlemen.

The committee adjourned at 10.02 o'clock, p.m.

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Ontario. Legislative Assembly

Legislature of Ontario Debates

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Standing Social
Development Committee *57*

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Thursday, May 30, 1974

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1974

The committee met at 3:55 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Mr. Chairman: Ladies and gentlemen, the estimates of the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

Hon. Mr. Auld.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Colleges and Universities): Mr. Chairman, gentlemen.

It is not my intention to speak at great length or in great detail about the activities of our ministry for 1974-1975, but I believe it would be useful to review briefly several of the principal areas in which we are working and to emphasize to the committee the manner in which the ministry is pulling together its various areas of responsibility to maximize the accessibility and effectiveness of adult learning and human development opportunities in the province.

First, with respect to the university system, we are proposing an overall increase in operating support of approximately 14 per cent. This increase results from the growth of full-time and part-time enrolment and from an increase in the value of the basic income unit. Full-time enrolment is up approximately four per cent and part-time enrolment has grown about 10 per cent. The value of the basic income unit has been increased by 7.1 per cent from a dollar figure of \$1,825 to \$1,955. As you know, the basic income unit is the basis of the formula which is applied to enrolment to calculate the amount of operating grants provided to the universities.

In addition to this increase in formula operating support, we have accepted the recommendations of the former Committee on University Affairs to provide supplementary grants totalling \$6,155,000 which will be shared by Brock, Carleton, Lakehead, Laurentian, Trent and York universities and the University of Windsor. We have also continued to recognize the special costs of university programmes for Franco-Ontarians and a total of \$2,795,000 will be provided for this purpose to the University of Ottawa and to Laurentian and York universities.

While it has been necessary to maintain a near moratorium on capital projects in the university system, some capital funds have been made available for urgently needed renovations and repairs and for a few selected high-priority new construction projects.

Another significant initiative with respect to the university system has been the revision of the operating grant formula to provide full support for provincially-assisted universities with church-related colleges. This new policy could generate an additional \$3 million in operating support for Laurentian University and the universities of Toronto, Waterloo and Western Ontario. Approximately 3,500 full-time students and 2,000 part-time students are enrolled in programmes in church-related institutions that could be affected by this change.

Another project in the university system which I would like to draw to the attention of the committee is the instructional development programme for which the ministry has budgeted \$350,000 for 1974-1975. These funds will be provided in the form of grants to individual faculty members to undertake instructional projects throughout the university system in the province.

Mr. Chairman, I would also like to remind the committee that on May 14, legislation was introduced in the House to establish the Ontario Council on University Affairs. The creation of this new council to act as a strengthened buffer between the government and the university system responds to the recommendations of the university community in general and in particular to the advice of bodies such as the Commission on Post-Secondary Education in Ontario, the Council of Ontario Universities, and the Committee on University Affairs. The new body will replace the Committee on University Affairs. It should effectively protect the autonomy of the universities in planning their programmes and development while enabling the minister to maintain his accountability to the Legislature and the people of Ontario. I believe the creation of the Ontario Council on University Affairs is a very significant step forward in the development of the university system in Ontario. However, I believe it would be inappropriate to discuss the coun-

cil in detail at this time since the legislation to establish it is presently before the House.

Now, turning to the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology in Ontario, I would first like to emphasize the extraordinary success the colleges have enjoyed in meeting the public demand for a variety of post-secondary programmes. The most striking evidence of this success is the enormous and continuing increase in college enrolment.

Full-time enrolment in 1973-1974 was up 10 per cent over 1972-1973, and college multi-year plans indicate the likelihood of an annual eight per cent growth rate. In the area of part-time enrolment, there has been an even greater surge in the utilization of college programmes, and many colleges are experiencing an annual increase of up to 50 per cent in the number of part-time students, and some in percentages considerably in excess of that. These figures do not, of course, include diploma nursing students recently integrated into the college system. I should point out, in passing, that the integration of diploma nursing students has now been successfully completed throughout the province.

To return to the question of college enrolment, the dramatic increases have placed a substantial financial burden on individual institutions, since, as you are aware, the colleges are funded by the slip-year formula, whereby their current year's operating grants are based on their previous year's enrolment. This burden was partially alleviated by the 7.1 per cent increase in the value of the basic income unit for 1974-1975, and, as a further measure to alleviate the financial pressure on the colleges, we are providing up to \$3.6 million in growth grants for 1974-1975. These grants provide additional operating funds to the colleges to compensate for enrolment growth in the year the growth takes place.

A further \$1,265,000 is provided to Cambrian and Algonquin colleges to enable them to provide bilingual programmes for the benefit of the Franco-Ontario population in the communities they serve.

Enrolment statistics demonstrate that the college system meets a growing public demand. However, it is also encouraging to note that an impressive and increasing percentage of college graduates have now taken their place in the work force. Since 1971, the ministry has made an annual survey of students who graduated from community colleges in that year. The most recent report, which will shortly be issued by my ministry, indicates that 91.4 per cent of the graduates were employed in 1973; 2.4 per cent are

continuing their education; 2.3 per cent are active in some field other than employment, and only 3.8 per cent are unemployed.

It is also encouraging to note that the salaries being received by these graduates have increased substantially over the course of the study from a median value of \$5,301 per annum in 1971 to \$7,238 in 1973.

Mr. Chairman, turning now to the area of student assistance, I would like to touch briefly on the variety of programmes and new initiatives being taken by our ministry. The total amount budgeted for all student aid programmes in 1974-1975 is \$37.8 million. However, I would like to emphasize not only the financial scope of student aid programmes, but also our point of view with respect to student assistance. This point of view is demonstrated by the kinds of programmes that are available and the things that we are doing to bring them to the attention of students who can benefit from them.

The largest student aid programme is the Ontario Student Assistance Programme for which almost \$33 million has been budgeted. All forms, pamphlets and literature pertaining to this programme have been revised for 1974-1975 to enable students and their parents to understand more clearly the means by which we calculate the amount of money applicants are entitled to receive.

The Ontario Student Assistance Programme has also been incorporated into the Ministry of Industry and Tourism's advertising programme in weekly and farm newspapers throughout Ontario. We hope this measure will bring the programme to the attention of many students, or their parents, who might not otherwise hear of it.

In addition, we have run a pilot advertising programme aimed at Italian-speaking parents. This small programme in Italian language media throughout Ontario should demonstrate if media advertising can effectively provide ethnic groups in Ontario with basic information on student assistance.

With respect to other student assistance programmes, we are continuing the loan and bursary programmes for part-time students, which we launched in 1973. These pilot programmes should help indicate the best means of assisting the growing number of part-time students in Ontario colleges and universities.

We have also introduced a new programme to provide short-term loans for full-time students who require emergency financial assistance, but, for one reason or another, are unable to receive it from their parents or

from the Ontario Student Assistance Programme.

With respect to graduate studies, we were able to announce last month the winners of more than 1,000 Ontario graduate scholarships. These scholarships offer students \$800 per term, plus the amount of their tuition fee, for a maximum of three consecutive terms. They are designed to encourage academic excellence and the awards were made strictly on the basis of academic merit as determined by a selection board.

The programmes and activities that I have mentioned I think amply demonstrate the two main thrusts of the ministry with respect to student assistance are first to make financial assistance available to all who need it and, second, to encourage the pursuit of academic excellence.

Mr. Chairman, I would also like to draw your attention to a number of youth employment projects co-ordinated by our ministry which should provide constructive work experience for about 250 students during the summer months.

Two projects are business-oriented, the first encouraging secondary students to operate low-risk businesses with guidance from trained staff and the second providing interest-free loans of up to \$1,000 for the operation of small businesses. A further project, Youth and the Arts, provides employment opportunities through a number of cultural agencies associated with the ministry. For example, teams of students will be trained to catalogue collections of artefacts in local museums across Ontario and other students will have the opportunity to work in regional library headquarters or in local libraries throughout the province.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to place particular emphasis on the estimates of the cultural affairs division of our ministry. As you are aware, this is a relatively new division which, in a short space of time, has established the administrative mechanisms to work in an area that will become increasingly important in future years in the life of our province. Within the ministry, and through the interministerial cultural co-ordinating committee, we are trying to tread to a fine line which requires co-ordinated development of cultural resources and facilities in Ontario without exercising bureaucratic control over them.

We are also making a conscious and continuing effort to develop ways of decentralizing Ontario's cultural resources to enable the maximum number of people from all areas of the province to benefit from them.

Do I hear the bells again?

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, we just have two more pages.

In this regard, I would like to draw the committee's attention to Outreach Ontario, a programme that will encourage cultural agencies in the province to respond to local initiatives in communities throughout Ontario. The agencies involved are the Archives of Ontario, the Art Gallery of Ontario, the McMichael Canadian Collection of Art, the Ontario Arts Council and associated cultural organizations, the Ontario Educational Communications Authority, the Ontario Heritage Foundation, the Ontario Science Centre, the Royal Botanical Gardens and the Royal Ontario Museum.

The Outreach Ontario programme includes Festival Ontario, a highly successful programme introduced in 1973 which provides the resources of provincial cultural agencies to support community art festivals and celebrations.

Outreach Ontario funds will also be made available to expand extension programmes of the Ontario Science Centre, the Royal Botanical Gardens and the ROM. In addition, funds will be provided to encourage public libraries to bring in creative and performing artists and craftsmen for performances and demonstrations.

The Ontario Educational Communications Authority will participate in the Outreach programme through the provision of videotape playback equipment and cultural and educational programming to selected libraries, particularly in the rural areas. OECA will also tape special programmes at various cultural agencies in Metropolitan Toronto for broadcast and distribution to areas outside Toronto.

In addition, Outreach Ontario will provide new opportunities for individual artists. For example, the Art Gallery of Ontario will produce large editions of low-cost graphics by Ontario artists to be sold throughout the province in art galleries, museums and libraries.

Under the Outreach programme, the art gallery will also establish an internship programme to train fine arts students for gallery careers and will provide other short-term training programmes for elementary and secondary school teachers who wish to learn to use the gallery as a teaching tool. In addition, staff members from community art galleries may learn exhibition and other techniques

through seminars held at the Art Gallery of Ontario. As another part of Outreach Ontario, the historical museums branch of the ministry will establish a branch office at Sault Ste. Marie to service 40 museums located in northern Ontario.

Turning to other programmes in the cultural area, we are proposing to provide the Ontario Arts Council with a total of \$7 million in operating grants for 1974-1975. This 37 per cent increase over last year's funding will enable the council to expand its support of individuals and arts groups throughout Ontario, including artists, writers, composers, film-makers and photographers.

Other Arts Council programmes will include its touring programme which enables professional theatre, music and other artistic groups to perform in areas of the province which do not normally have access to such amenities; the creative artists in schools programme which enables elementary and secondary school children to work directly with professional artists such as sculptors, painters, potters and weavers; and a programme of grants to professional composers in Ontario to commission special works for performance before Ontario audiences.

We have also recognized the growing importance of community museums throughout Ontario and propose to double support to 177 museums and to provide a special grant to the Ontario Museum Association.

Mr. Chairman, you will note that our estimates for the Royal Ontario Museum include \$150,000 toward its exhibition of archaeological finds of the People's Republic of China which will run from Aug. 8 to Nov. 16. I need hardly emphasize the importance of this exhibition and the international significance of its North American display taking place here in Ontario.

Another exhibition of international significance is the First World Crafts Exhibition from June 11 to Sept. 2, at the Ontario Science Centre. This exhibition is being organized by the World Craft Council, a UNESCO-financed organization with 77 member countries.

Mr. Chairman, this provides only a very brief summary of the variety of artistic and cultural programmes that our ministry is involved in either directly through bodies such as the Ontario Arts Council or through the interministerial cultural co-ordinating committee. However, I believe the programmes and activities I have referred to provide ample evidence of the guiding principles which have governed our approach to the whole area of cultural affairs in Ontario. That ap-

proach is to create a framework within which artistic excellence can be attained, cultural initiatives can flourish and receive support throughout the province, and a rich cultural life can be enjoyed not only in major urban centres but by citizens in all parts of Ontario.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Minister. As the committee will note we are now without a quorum in this committee. We have to have at least seven members. However, I would suggest, with the approval of the committee, that we continue with the remainder of the statements. Is that in agreement with the committee's thinking?

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): There is no division of the House, is there?

Mr. Chairman: No, it was a quorum bell. Mr. Newman?

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Mr. Chairman, that was a good report but I think we should have some copies of this.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I just happen to have some available.

Mr. Morningstar: I would like to have followed it along with you.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, if I may lead off for my party—unfortunately I was given this assignment sort of at the last minute and I don't feel myself on a par with the—

Hon. Mr. Auld: We will hang something on that hook on the wall.

Mr. B. Newman: —with the former critic of Colleges and Universities, the member for Samia (Mr. Bullbrook). However, I really feel quite inadequate even though I may be familiar with some of the aspects of the ministry.

One of the things that does disturb me, Mr. Chairman, is that the government seems to be searching to find someone adequate enough to head up this ministry. The fact that you, Mr. Minister—

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): They failed again.

Mr. B. Newman: —have been the third choice, I think, over the past three or four years indicates there is something wrong with either the talent on your side of the House or—

Mr. Laughren: Don't be so subtle.

Mr. B. Newman: No. I can recall when the minister was Minister of Tourism and he made

a very effective minister. I hope his effectiveness during those days and what he learnt at that time and with his post-graduate work now that he has had two months of it—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Now you tell me.

Mr. B. Newman: —will lead to greater and better things. Portions of the minister's comments did make mention of the better aspects of things that we on this side of the table would have difficulty disputing or criticizing.

We understand your ministry has increased its total budget by some 10 per cent. When you look at the estimates you have the idea that it was just a straight 10 per cent increase. For university support it was almost a straight 10 per cent increase. For cultural and general education it was a far more substantial increase, I think a \$22 million increase, which would make it maybe a 60 per cent increase. But the overall increase in the budget was just 10 per cent.

I hope that this 10 per cent increase is indicative of the ministry's attitude toward salaries of university and college staff, so that they could at least get salary increments equivalent to the cost of living increase. This 10 per cent indicates to me that was a cost of living increase.

One of the first areas in which I wanted to make a few comments, Mr. Minister, is in the funding.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. B. Newman: The minister makes mention that the basic income unit is the basis on which the colleges and universities receive their financial support from the government. He also makes mention, that because of dropping enrolment, or occasional dropping enrolment, he uses a slip-year method of financing. I am just wondering, Mr. Minister, if the basic income unit method shouldn't be revised or completely changed, and some other method be developed by the ministry.

I look at the basic income unit method and it reminds me that colleges and universities, in an attempt to get sufficient funds, go into the body-snatching game. They are interested in getting as many bodies into the universities as possible. As a result, they sometimes may go to extremes in an attempt to increase their student enrolment.

I can recall reading comments in the Toronto Globe and Mail on Nov. 16 where they mention the recruiting campaigns conducted by the various universities. This article published on Nov. 23, and is headed, "University Soft-Sell Student Recruiting Pro-

gramme." It mentions Waterloo using a telephone gambit, trying to enrol students in their university by using one of the electioneering tactics. You know, phoning people who are on the voters' list—

Mr. C. J. S. Apps (Kingston and the Islands): Just for football players.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. B. Newman: For football players? Well that might be one of the approaches used by colleges and universities but this was apparently to increase enrolment at the university.

York University even went as far as Vancouver to get students to come and enrol. York also used the free tuition proposal to get the better students. In other words, they are trying to take away the top-notch students from some of the other colleges and universities.

I think that adversely affects all of these recruiting campaigns, Mr. Minister. I can't help but see them adversely affecting the smaller universities. I look at Trent and at its community, Peterborough. How can they compete against York? How could they compete against any of these bigger universities to get students in their own geographic area to attend when such enticements are being waved in front of them by the bigger universities? To me this is all a result of the basic income unit method of university financing.

I can't give you an answer as to a better way of financing, but I think the ministry should be developing some programmes to prevent some of the stealing from one area, bringing the top-notch students into another area. If Brock or Trent are going to have the best students in their own areas all going to York University because of the enticement of free university tuition for some period of time, it may adversely effect the type of student they attract.

I think, Mr. Minister, there has to be some better method of financing developed by the ministry. I could mention two editorials on financing universities in the Toronto Globe of Dec. 27 and Dec. 28. I would think the ministry is fully aware of them, knows the content of them and would have either replied to or studied them; so I'm not going to take the time of the committee discussing their suggestions and their criticisms of university financing.

I'm just wondering, Mr. Minister, if the colleges and universities have done any type of manpower-needs studies, so that we could know if we actually are training and edu-

cating students for future needs. I don't think we should solely train or educate to meet the labour force. I think we will always need the intellectuals in our society, and those who are not going to be necessarily in a technical type of labour force—referring to engineers and community college students.

I think there should be a manpower study, because, if I'm not mistaken, one of the American newspapers recently reported they have 30 per cent of their students now attending post-secondary education, yet the work force can only accommodate one third of those students. In other words, 10 per cent of the students graduating in the United States from high schools have sufficient education to take care of US manpower needs generally, yet 30 per cent of the students leaving school go on to post-secondary education.

I'm just wondering if, in our own community, with so many students attending the universities, there should be some other educational institution. Maybe some of them should be going to the community colleges rather than to the universities—only from the fact that they have been sold a bill of goods about after they graduate. When the type of professional opportunities are not available to them after they graduate, they become very disgruntled with our whole society.

I've heard of a lot of individuals having PhDs, who after going through all of those extensive years at the university, are either driving a cab or pumping gasoline. Maybe it's only a temporary measure, but this is what hits the newspaper headlines. The public immediately asks, why spend hundreds of millions of dollars to educate, when an individual with an average IQ could be performing those same services?

I don't think for one minute, Mr. Minister, that we shouldn't have the educational opportunity available to the individual if he wants to go on to college, or beyond the four-year college level into the post-graduate field. But I wonder if maybe there should be some better counselling directed either at the late high school level or when the student first enrolls at university. Is he the type of individual who will be able to develop to his maximum, who can obtain something that is of educational value to him and can make a contribution to society?

Quite often the student who goes to the university for the first time sees stars. He figures that after his four years at the university he has the key to success in life, not realizing that he has only put the key in the door. He has still got to turn that key.

There is an awful lot of hard work that follows his university education before he can really achieve what he would like to achieve.

I mentioned recruitment drives, Mr. Minister, and the ends to which two universities have gone and I would assume a lot of others have used similar types of recruiting or their own method of getting students—because of the basic income unit being the method of financing the universities.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the minister a series of questions on this. Maybe in the course of his reply he can answer them for us.

Is the slip-year financing of post-secondary institutions really solving the problems of the small universities like Brock and Trent? Is it not really postponing their eventual deaths at the hands of the basic income unit because these two universities may lack both professional and graduate faculties?

How much of the basic income money that is allocated to professional and graduate schools is diverted to other faculties in the school? Do they get X amount of basic income units? Or is this on a weighting scale, as a result of which the universities are able to divert funds from some of the graduate schools into the regular arts and sciences courses? As a result, schools like Trent and Brock can't compete with them because they can funnel these funds into these faculties, and can also expand certain types of programmes that Brock and Trent couldn't go into because of a lack of funds.

If the minister can pull out figures concerning the engineering faculty versus arts and sciences at the University of Toronto, I certainly would appreciate it. How much engineering money is being used elsewhere? And, if it is used elsewhere, why? Doesn't this prove, Mr. Minister, that places like Trent can't survive without graduate schools or professional schools?

When is the ministry going to regularize the system of negotiating with the University of Toronto over the arts and sciences basic income unit? They function under the so-called new programme. Isn't the system of year-to-year negotiations holding a gun to the head of that institution? Does the ministry intend to do the same thing with other institutions as they change from the general to the honours programmes?

How much money are Ontario universities forced to spend by the government every year to teach courses that should have or could have been taught at the secondary level? How much money is being spent to

bring students up to a university level in subjects like mathematics and foreign languages because these students possibly didn't get sufficient information at the secondary level? Does the fact that they didn't get this at the secondary level indicate a declining standard of educational quality on the secondary level when we get them in the universities and have to upgrade them?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There might be two parts to that. Students who arrive but who are not proficient in the subject that they are supposed to have—

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I accept that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —as opposed to the ones who arrive and want to take a course in something and find they don't have the right credits for it.

Mr. B. Newman: That's right. There are two in there. There are some who have already graduated from our high schools and find that the content of the high school course wasn't sufficient to enable them to stay in this discipline. As a result, the university has to develop an upgrading programme to enable the student to carry on at the university level.

The reason I mention this, Mr. Minister, is that the universities are using the basic income unit to finance themselves. It's to their advantage financially to put in these upgrading programmes, otherwise they are going to lose the basic income unit.

Mr. Chairman, I want to go into another aspect of the ministry's department. That concerns the integration of the diploma nursing students in the community colleges. Why was there a difference in tuition between that at the Ryerson Institute and the equivalent programme at various community colleges throughout the province?

I also would like to ask the minister what the policy is concerning the use of nurses' residences that were attached to the various hospitals throughout the province, when the education of nurses was transferred to the community colleges. The facilities available for these future nurses were quite substantial throughout the province and in some of the community colleges there is a request for housing facilities. Could we not have accommodated them by continuing to allow these nurses to live at the nurses' residence attached to the hospital? Otherwise they are in the commercial housing market and are taking accommodation from other students in a community such as Windsor, who may be attending either the university or St. Clair College. Had we been able to use these

facilities we could have alleviated a housing problem and we would have accommodated the students also, because they could be working at that hospital at the same time.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Would you agree, Mr. Newman, that when we get into specific questions we might deal with those on the vote having to do with those programmes because otherwise people come and go we may get into duplication.

Mr. B. Newman: That's all right. As I said earlier I am not conversant enough with the ministry to be able to make a criticism in the way Mr. Bullbrook would have made. But looking over some of the notes here I thought some of these points should be raised.

I am wondering, Mr. Minister, if the problem of the nurses has been completely solved so far as their student loans and tuition charges are concerned. Nursing in some instances was a 12-month course. As a result, they did not have the opportunity to earn funds to enable them to carry on at the university. If they were on a semester programme and only attended two semesters and attempted to work the third semester, job opportunities for them were much more limited than they would have been for an ordinary university student or even a high school student.

Has the ministry attempted to resolve the problem of discrimination concerning women on the staffs of the various universities? I've noticed in the report called "Key Issues in Higher Education," by Edward B. Harvey and Joseph L. Leonards, statistical data that indicates real discrimination as far as the gentler sex is concerned.

For example, among university and college teachers in 1970-1971 there were 24 male deans and only 15 women. It's understandable why there could have been so few women at that time, but when you get into some of the other categories you can see why in my estimation there was real discrimination. The professors: They had 4,217 male professors in 1971, and only 148 female. Associate professors: There were 5,901 against 517 female. Assistant professors: There were 7,700 men as against 1,237 women. Lecturers and instructors: There were 2,653 men as opposed to 1131 women.

Now you will notice that the numbers get closer together as we go down the scale at the university—from the dean down to the lecturer. It indicates to me that the lower-paid jobs were relegated to the female more than they were the male.

In the overall picture on the colleges and universities in 1970-1971, for the 21,177 males that were employed by the universities, you had 3,109 females. You could see there was a seven-to-one ratio there, and I would assume that the enrolment at the universities was an even 50-50, or maybe 40-60 basis, male to female. So there is the discrimination.

There was not only discrimination in the hiring, Mr. Minister, there was also wage discrimination which should be resolved by the colleges and the universities. I know you will say that it is not your responsibility, but I think you, as minister, are going to have to bring to the attention of the colleges and the universities that the ministry won't tolerate any difference of pay for a similar type of work, whether it be on the normal labour force or whether it be at the university.

For example—and these figures are from the 1970-1971 statistics, table 10, “median salaries of teachers in universities and colleges by rank and sex”—male deans were paid \$26,150; the female were paid \$21,350. The greatest differential was at that point. When it got down to lecturers and instructors, the difference in the gap between the two substantially decreased. The males were paid \$10,164 as opposed to the females' \$9,390. So you can see that the gap was diminishing, but there was still a gap.

If you are going to believe in the Ontario Human Rights Code, then the discrimination because of sex as far as employment opportunities and wages are concerned, has to disappear completely. I think of all institutions the two that should eliminate that difference are the university and college. How can we expect someone down the educational ladder not to discriminate when he sees the best-educated group in our society discriminating against women?

The same survey, Mr. Minister, showed in October, 1971, the average monthly salary of a male hospital laboratory technician was \$586 and of a female technician, \$577. So you can see it was not only at the university level, but also in other branches of a type of education.

Now, Mr. Minister, a report by the equal rights group at McMaster University indicated that not many women teach at the university, that there are very few in the higher positions, and they are paid less on the average in every level. Differences in average salaries at the lowest level between men and women were \$759. Among the lecturers in arts and among assistant professors

in science and engineering it was \$1,008. Among associate professors in art it was \$1,351. Among full professors it was \$4,074.

Mr. Minister, you can see that discrimination, dollar-wise, is still carried on at the universities. Even in the appointments to senior positions, there is discrimination in view of the fact that the number of women is substantially lower than is the number of men; this is shown by a study at McMaster University.

I have a little report I think I should read into the record, Mr. Minister, because it spells out the whole problem in probably better terms than I could use.

At the time the women's bureau reviewed the distribution of women in university teaching and administration, in the field of English, in the humanities and in their studies.

An attempt to promote the need for further investigation of policies and practices in the universities in relation to the salary scales and in relation to employment opportunities was the reason for some of this.

Women academics particularly are presenting their case now to the relevant public inquiries in an attempt to see that they pay attention to the problems that they are being confronted with, and they ask for not only a greater awareness, but the opportunity or the right to have that problem completely resolved.

That is the extent to which I wanted to comment on the opportunities of women in the educational field and the post-secondary field.

You can see, Mr. Minister, that there definitely is discrimination, not only in income levels but also in the opportunities for employment, and it definitely has to be resolved.

Not too long ago, there was quite a fuss concerning the Crown Employees Collective Bargaining Act, and that fuss still continues.

Teachers in community colleges throughout the Province of Ontario went on a sort of letter-writing spree in an attempt to have the Crown Employees Collective Bargaining Act amendments brought in—not by your own ministry, I realize—to resolve their problems.

It does seem strange that the Minister of Education (Mr. Wells) has stated openly that terms and conditions of work are negotiable items at the elementary and secondary school levels—I think you, Mr. Minister, should do exactly the same and clear the air in this regard; there is no reason why an elementary

school or secondary school teacher shouldn't have, as he does have now, the opportunity to negotiate for terms and conditions of work—yet that same opportunity is being denied those at the community college level, according to the Crown Employees Collective Bargaining Act, Bill 105 of 1972.

I think a statement should come from you, Mr. Minister, or you should use your abilities to persuade your own colleagues, that there is discrimination in this instance between the teachers at the primary and secondary levels and those teaching in our community colleges.

I know you will say that those in the community colleges are Crown employees, but whether they are Crown employees or not they are in the same field of endeavour, and that's education. And if those in education at one level have the right to bargain for terms and conditions of work, I think the community college teachers should be given exactly the same opportunity. I think you could clear the air by coming out with a statement like that and by convincing your colleagues that the Act needs to be amended to give the teachers exactly that same bargaining opportunity, especially since you have them under compulsory arbitration.

Mr. Laughren: This ministry didn't put them there, though. It's a separate bill under another ministry.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes I know, but I am asking him to use his good graces and his influence with his colleagues. I know it isn't directly under his responsibility. It is the responsibility of another minister. But I think that you, Mr. Minister, could have a lot to do with resolving and alleviating the problem.

As did others, I received numerous letters from teachers in the community colleges who violently opposed the denial of their democratic rights as spelt out in Bill 105. Unless this is resolved you are going to find the problems are going to become more serious. I hope that we don't have the same type of confrontation there that has developed in the primary and secondary level when the ministry attempted to put the teachers under compulsory arbitration. If this isn't resolved then you are going to find the community college teachers are going to get very militant. I think you can, possibly, Mr. Minister, resolve some of the problems through your ability to persuade.

Mr. Chairman, in his opening remarks the minister made comments concerning the Wright report. He has selected one portion

of the Wright report for implementation and that was concerning the establishment of the Ontario Council on University Affairs. I just wondered, Mr. Minister, if it is your intent to implement other recommendations that are enclosed in the report. There are certainly enough substantial recommendations in there that you shouldn't hesitate to act on a little quicker than your predecessor acted on them.

One of the other reports that had been tabled recently, Mr. Chairman, was "Training for Ontario's Future." The comments in there are certainly quite noteworthy. Whether the ministry intends to act on them I don't know. But if we have spent \$70,000—which is what I understand we spent on the report dealing with industrial training—and the report makes some substantial recommendations, I am wondering what the next step is going to be on the part of the minister. Does he have intentions of implementing it or because it is political dynamite is he simply going to shelve this and take no action whatsoever on the report?

I notice that your colleague, the Hon. Darcy McKeough, the Minister of Energy, did mention that there is going to be an acute labour shortage developing as a result of multi-billion dollar projects being planned in Canada between now and 1980. If we are going to be confronted with acute labour shortages in certain skilled trades then: I think—

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is the nuclear power situation.

Mr. B. Newman: It is not necessarily only that, Mr. Minister, because if you are going to have the development of the oil pipeline and other types of energy sources you are going to have to have skilled and trained personnel. Not only are you going to need that but—here are some short comments from a letter I received from an industrialist back in my own community. I am not going to read the whole letter as it would only take the time of the committee, but he did mention that he is unable to get plant electricians. He can't get tool and die makers. He can't get machinery maintenance men. He can't get machinery set-up men. These are skills that should be developed, in my estimation, in the community colleges. Now, whether the community colleges aren't vigorous enough in their promotion, or whether students didn't want to enrol in courses that would lead to these mechanical and technical skills, I don't know. But he was quite put out that he has all kinds of job opportunities in the plant for this type of skill and he is unable

to get it in the community. I think that, had the ministry manpower studies from industries, it could direct the community colleges into certain areas where their help is sorely needed.

I know Dr. Quittenton in Windsor is active in diversifying and finding what the community needs. He has a good feeling of the pulse of the community and he is the innovator of a lot of programmes that I haven't seen copied in other parts of the province.

I'm wondering if the minister is having the community colleges look into manpower needs and if they are actively engaged in meeting not only present but future needs.

I'm not going to read into the record the comments made by Harold Greer in his article of April 29 concerning this report. I'm sure the ministry has read it, has wept over his comments a bit, and I hope will react to them. Brian Vallee on April 25 likewise wrote quite a cogent column concerning "Training for Ontario's Future." I'm wondering about the status of the report and what the ministry has in mind as far as it is concerned.

The other area I want to mention, Mr. Minister, is the part-time student and the handicaps he has.

The committee looking into the use of schools, of which I am a member, has had representation from all kinds of groups. Among them were those who were handicapped, financially, academically, physically, or handicapped as to the time available to them because of having to take care of a family. Is the ministry making available to that type of student greater financial assistance to carry on or to return to post-secondary education, or is the ministry encouraging the greater participation by that type of part-time student?

The minister mentioned that the part-time student enrolment increased by 10 per cent over the last year. I think it speaks well. That's one area where the enrolment has to increase by far more than 10 per cent because there are so many—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think I said up to 50 per cent. Full-time 10 per cent.

Mr. B. Newman: Full-time by four per cent, you mentioned.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, in universities, sorry.

Mr. B. Newman: That's right. Universities four per cent full-time and 10 per cent part-time. I can't recall exactly what the percentage figure was that you mentioned but I can

foresee in the future that the part-time student is going to be the big area of educational opportunity. I can see the desire to upgrade or simply learn a skill or simply for personal pleasure the individual is going to return to school. Very often students attending on a secondary level are completely uninterested in certain areas of education and once they graduate from there, or get into the work force whether they graduate from school or not, they find new interests and education very appealing and attractive to them.

However, quite often they are handicapped financially because the individual is taking care of a family; or they may be handicapped because they have some type of physical handicap. I would certainly like to see greater assistance given to the part-time student.

You initiated a programme one year ago. I think you have to expand that type of programme. That probably was along the student award line and I think that with the student awards you have to keep upgrading them all the time. I do like the pamphlet you had sent out to students; I think that was worthwhile. I think it sort of cleared the air well for the individual who wondered how he applies for student aid and what he can expect by way of student loan or grant. I thought that was good.

However, it is a little misleading in that the student may apply for a student award or loan and get assistance. Then, for his second year at the school he finds that because he struggled like the dickens in the summer and was able to make a little money, he is not going to ask for assistance, knowing that he is going to have to pay back any loan he gets. Rather than carry that weight on his shoulders, he decides he is not going to ask for assistance.

As soon as he doesn't ask for assistance, the bank starts asking him for repayment. Yes, they do. I brought a case to the attention of your folks just this week. In fact the bank deducted from the student's account the interest payments on his loan. I think that's unfair. I think after the student graduates or drops out of the programme completely, then the loan should be collectible but because the student simply did not ask for a loan and didn't inform them that he wasn't going to ask for a loan—if he had informed them they would not have had the bank collect the interest on his loan.

I don't think he should have to inform. The college knows the student is enrolled; the student awards officer at the college knows he is enrolled. I know you are placing a little

responsibility on the student but you are adversely affecting him by starting to collect interest payments on the moneys he has borrowed in the previous year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Was this one under the Canada student loan programme or our own loan programme which covers the people who aren't covered by the federal programme?

Mr. B. Newman: I don't know whether it was under one or the other. I do know I called up the ministry, the student awards officer, and if I am not mistaken I spoke with Mr. Bethune. I brought this to his attention and he said "Yes, that's right. The student should have reported to the student awards officer and informed him that he is not applying for a student loan."

What you really ask the student to do under this scheme is apply whether he needs it or not because if he doesn't apply the bank is going to start collecting interest on the moneys it lent him in the previous year. You can reply to that later, Mr. Minister, when we get to that vote but I can tell you that was one of the problems.

Mr. Chairman, this is the extent of the comments I have to make at the present. I hope I can make other comments and others will come in here to participate in the discussion of the ministry because it is one of the very important ministries. I hope they are able to make some type of contribution.

As I said in my earlier comments I don't think I would be on a par with the member who is the official critic but because of unforeseen circumstances I was asked to take this assignment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Laughren.

Mr. Laughren: Does the minister not wish to reply now? Does he wish to wait?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Do you have some sort of opening statement?

Mr. Laughren: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Fire away.

Mr. Laughren: It seems strange to sit here again and see the same grey eminences beside the minister, while the minister is always changing. When I first came in, it was the present Treasurer (Mr. White) who was the minister. He was known by the senior civil servants—I understand now; none of them confide in me, I might add, Mr. Minister—but I understand he was known as the "philosopher king." Then, we had the present

Solicitor General (Mr. Kerr), who was known to be disgruntled and bad tempered.

Mr. B. Newman: That applies to everybody.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, that's right. Then there was the present Minister without Portfolio (Mr. McNie), who the Ontario Federation of Students called the benevolent marshmallow. Now, I understand that the senior officials in your ministry are searching for an apt description for you.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The students had a good one. They said I had been recycled.

Mr. Laughren: I understand there's a debate going on now. I wouldn't overlook the role that your very literate deputy might be playing in this. They've decided on one of the two words. The first word they're going to use to describe you is "benign," but there's a real battle going on as to whether the second word should be "dictator" or "tumour." But eventually that will be resolved.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Dictator or what?

Mr. Laughren: Tumour—and the effect that you're going to have on the ministry. But I won't belabour that—

Dr. J. G. Parr (Deputy Minister): I wish, Mr. Chairman, that I would not be implicated in the scurrilous rumours which Mr. Laughren dreams up, perhaps by himself.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, I must say that is my own creation.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, it's not bad, as a matter of fact.

Mr. Laughren: I think the critic for the Liberal Party indicated that the main change was the minister. But another change that intrigued me was the loss of your assistant deputy minister, Mr. Gordon. I'm not about to conduct scurrilous attacks on the senior civil servants; I think they serve your ministry very well. But I really was surprised that when Mr. Gordon went the Minister of Community and Social Services didn't wake up the next morning with Connect Campus throughout the entire ministry. I'm just as glad they didn't, anyway.

There are things that have not changed either. Your deputy's ties are still as beautiful as they were last year.

Mr. B. Newman: A little brighter this year.

Mr. Laughren: A little brighter yes. Well, he moves with the times you know.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, that's in case the lights go out.

Mr. Laughren: That's what it's for? I see.

I found the opening statement by the minister distressingly similar. This ministry surely should have more of a philosophical bent to it than it has; that's my opinion. The minister's leadoffs always tend to be rather mechanistic. I hope that before the debates are over that we can engage him in some dialogue over what direction our colleges and universities should be moving and in particular the colleges. I think the colleges are an area where there needs to be a lot more debate; a lot more public debate. And, hopefully, we can add to that debate, by using these estimates in that way.

It would appear to many people, I think, that there are not too many issues in post-secondary education now. The ministry and the institutions seem to be in relatively low profile. There are aberrations, of course, with places like Conestoga and so forth, but generally speaking it seems to be a more quiet time for the ministry and the minister. But I think that may be misleading. I don't think the minister—and he's an experienced minister—I suppose he won't be misled into thinking that all is well within the ministry, merely because there are very few student demonstrations or sit-ins, or occupations.

There are many areas in which I believe the ministry stands condemned in the operation of the colleges and universities. I would like to outline some of them. I would like to go into more detail as the votes come up. But, just in a few moments, I would like to go into the problem of the colleges of applied arts and technology in some detail; the question of the capital spending moratorium, I think we need to look at that; tuition fees, I think that as long as we've got tuition fees they need to be debated; the question of the democratization of our institutions at the post-secondary level, I think that the ministry is not moving at all there when it should be; there's the whole question of bilingualism, and I'm really only talking about Cambrian College and about Laurentian University in this respect, although I know that Ottawa University is not as happy as it might be either with the funding that it is getting for the bilingual programmes.

Also, there is the question of libraries. I find that the question of the role of this ministry in the operation of our libraries is an issue that is difficult to get people to debate. Yet I think it is a very serious one, and I think there are signs on the horizon that are depressing and I'd like to talk about

that at some length—I'd like some talk now, but then more in detail on that particular vote.

The question of the colleges is one that intrigues me a great deal, partly because of my own involvement in the colleges before I became a member. I say it again, that I have some affection for the colleges, so my criticisms of them are meant to be constructive, and I feel very strongly about the way the colleges are moving. We have a new minister this year, and while the theme of some of the things I will say is similar to the things I said last year, I hope that the other people will bear with me, because it is a new minister and I hope to impress upon him some of my ideas about the colleges and the direction in which they are moving.

I would like to quote very briefly from the sections of the basic documents of the colleges when they were first formulated back in 1965. The then minister (Mr. Davis), in his statement to the Legislature on May 21, 1965, said that the colleges were, and I quote, "planned to meet the relevant needs of all adults within a community, at all socio-economic levels, of all kinds of interests and aptitudes, and at all stages of educational achievement."

Later in the statement the minister said that the colleges "will be designed to meet the needs of the local community." The minister states that "the emphasis not only could, but should, vary from one community or region to another," as local needs dictate. He then listed three major responsibilities of every college:

1. To provide courses of types and levels beyond, or not suited to, the secondary school setting.
2. To meet the needs of graduates from any secondary school programme, apart from those wishing to attend university; and
3. To meet the educational needs of adults and out-of-school youth, whether or not they are secondary school graduates.

Then, in another document entitled: "Some Unique Features of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology," which was included in the basic documents, the following is outlined, and I quote:

If the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology in Ontario are to establish social identity, they must be based on four principles:

1. They must embrace total education, vocational and avocational, regardless of formal entrance qualifications, with provision for complete vertical and horizontal mobility.

2. They must develop curricula that meet the combined cultural aspirations and occupational needs of the students. [And I, personally, would underline the cultural part of that sentence.]

3. They must operate in the closest possible co-operation with business and industry and with social and other public agencies, including education, to ensure that curricula are at all times abreast, if not in advance, of the changing requirements of a technological society.

4. They must be dedicated to progress through constant research, not only in curricula but in pedagogical technique and administration.

I think those are admirable goals and admirable statements about the colleges in general. I'm concerned because I don't think that the colleges have achieved those admirable goals. They are, unquestionably, a positive influence in post-secondary education. What I'm saying to you is that I think there are ways that they can be improved and I think that our goals are mutual in that respect in wanting to see that done.

You might ask: "What happened to the colleges?" I don't think, for example, that they have moved into the communities the way they were supposed to. You can drag up almost endless examples of things the colleges are doing but on the other hand there are many, many things the colleges are not doing. I would suggest to you they are not meeting the needs of a great many people in the Province of Ontario and I shall outline some of those people that I believe they are not reaching at the present time.

I think that a major part of the blame must go to the Council of Regents. I think they have played a major part in the failure of the colleges to achieve their goals. I think that the administration of the colleges must accept some of the blame too for not involving people within the college and in the community in some of the things that they should have been doing.

I support the whole concept of formula financing, and God forbid if we go back to the old system where the institutions line up at Queen's Park to see who can get the biggest grant. I don't think that that's the answer at all. In the colleges, to my knowledge, there is no such thing as an innovative grant that

would encourage the colleges to go out into the community. As long as this is based on the formula financing with so much income per unit in enrolment, the colleges cannot go out into the community the way they could otherwise. I think that's a serious shortcoming of the colleges.

The very fact that in the Province of Ontario there is a select committee, of which I happen to be a member, looking into the need for an open sector of education in the province, and the very fact that the Wright commission talked about the need for an open academy, is an indication that the colleges are not doing their job. I believe that if the colleges were truly doing their job, if they really were institutions without walls between them and their communities, and if they really were going out into the communities, then you would not need an open sector in the Province of Ontario.

When the select committee does make its report, it will be a minority report with certainly my name on it and perhaps that of the member for Port Arthur (Mr. Foulds). I do not believe we need another level of education in the Province of Ontario—another whole sector called the open sector. We have our universities and our colleges and I believe that the colleges should be given the job of making post-secondary education more open, and we should give them that mandate to do it.

If you create another sector in the Province of Ontario, you're going to end up with the same kind of problems you have with the colleges now; that's a kind of institutionalization of the colleges. That, I think, is a serious mistake on the part of the colleges. They were allowed to do that and that's my real battle with the Council of Regents, because that's where the direction should have come from. The Council of Regents has had, and still has, a fairly large degree of autonomy. Therefore they cannot, I don't think, put the blame back on the ministry. They were the ones who made the decision to allow the colleges to develop campuses. I think that was a serious mistake.

I would say to the minister that the community colleges have not met the needs of the following people, which is why it is felt that there is a need in the province for an open sector: Women, native peoples, Franco-Ontarians, the economically poor, the physically handicapped, those people in northern, isolated or rural communities and any other groups that might be classified as disadvantaged either in a cultural or economic sense.

As long as those people are not having their needs met then the colleges are not doing their job. There is no reason why the colleges couldn't do it and no reason why they couldn't deliver education at all levels too. There is no reason why the community college in a remote community couldn't—along the lines of the Frontier College I think it was called—offer education that went below the college level or, perhaps, encouraged education above the college level as well. I see no reason why that couldn't occur.

I'm concerned about this sort of blanket acceptance that we need an open sector in Ontario. I hope the minister will think seriously about that and about the role the colleges themselves could play I suspect you'd find that the colleges were willing to take that on if they had the proper kind of support from the ministry. They can't possibly do it right now with the kind of funding they have. So the colleges themselves are not the real culprits here. It's the fact they were not given the kind of formula financing that would allow them to do that.

There is a great deal of concern among the public about quality in our community colleges; and when people talk about quality in the colleges they are referring to a number of things. They are referring to the quality of teaching, to the quality of programmes in the college, to the quality of graduates of the college, and in some cases to the quality of the students who are in the college.

I take issue with all of those, but I would say that something needs to be done if there is going to be confidence in the colleges in the community at large. It's fine for you to say, as I believe you did, that only 3.8 per cent of the graduates are unemployed. Well, it's still higher than the provincial unemployment rate. It's not higher than the unemployment rate for that age of people in the province; I appreciate that. But it's still an unemployment rate that's unacceptable, and it doesn't deal with the whole question of attrition.

I don't know what the attrition rate was in the past year, but the year before it was 52 per cent. You couldn't explain away where 52 per cent of the students who enrolled in the colleges went to. We know that some of them went to other courses. We know that some of them went to work. We know that some of them went into university. But nobody seemed to know for sure. Perhaps the ministry has some details on that now.

But as long as you have a very high attrition rate, and as long as there's that feeling among the public that the colleges are not

delivering, then I do think that something is wrong.

Perhaps the two-year programmes need to be made three-year programmes in many cases. There seems to be a desire on the part of employers—and I'd be interested in the response by the ministry on this—for three-year graduates, not two-year graduates. We must resist the temptation to drag out two-year programmes into three-year programmes, as opposed to making the programmes truly three-year programmes with that kind of content in them.

Another part of the college scene that bothers me is the career vs. culture debate. You mentioned Dr. Quittenton from St. Clair, and I disagree very fundamentally with his belief that if the job isn't at the end of the programme, then the programme probably shouldn't be there. He carries it even to the extent that there is no arts and science programme to this day at St. Clair community college.

I don't know how you justify that. That's why I read the goals from the basic documents of the colleges, because it's very clear in there that it's the cultural, vocational and avocational aspirations of students that the colleges are supposed to meet. Yet here we have a college—and Mohawk is in the same position, I believe; I don't know of any others—but certainly Mohawk and St. Clair don't even offer an arts and science programme, because they say there are no job opportunities. Well, if they can say that there are no job opportunities for those two programmes, let them guarantee employment for all the other programmes. Or else get off the idea that they know what's best for the students, and what programmes to offer because they know where the employment opportunities are. That's the kind of arrogance that we don't need in the community colleges.

I would suggest to you, Mr. Minister, that it should be the demand by the students that determines what programmes are offered. Not whether or not the president of a college happens to believe that the community colleges should be playing primarily a vocational role in post-secondary education. I don't think they have the right to say that.

I would very much like to see the Council of Regents make a provision that all colleges have to offer arts and science programmes. But it goes beyond that too; it becomes an attitudinal problem within the college, I believe, when you have the administration taking that approach to education. Obviously it must carry over into things like the number of electives that students can take and the

shifting from one programme to another. I think it can be very serious.

It is tempting to talk about the bargaining going on with the college faculties, but I shall resist that because I don't believe it belongs in these estimates. I would say, going back to the beginning when the colleges were created, it was the colleges themselves that led to this confrontation.

I remember the days when the college faculties were groping and were trying to approach the management or the administration of the colleges to get a fair deal, a fair shake. They were met with the kind of obstinacy I don't understand—things like setting up a grievance procedure whereby if the faculty felt grieved, they could indeed launch a grievance but it ended with the president with whom the very grievance probably originated.

What sense does it make to take a grievance to the very person against whom you are grieving? Then they wondered why the faculties became somewhat militant.

I would disagree with Mr. Newman about the college faculties being removed from under the jurisdiction of Bill 105. I think the college faculties being under Bill 105 is the greatest thing that has happened to the CSAO since it was created. They are doing more to raise the level of awareness of the CSAO people and have helped bring in new people to the CSAO, which is going to make the civil servants in the province heard from. I am sure you have heard the term already "free the servants." They mean free the servants from Bill 105, which is truly a horrendous piece of legislation.

The college faculty is going to play a major role in that. Just think what it meant. The college faculty primarily came from business and industry—a very large portion of them did—and a lot of them were connected with management in their previous jobs. It took a great deal to move the college faculties from that position into one of making the CSAO militant to the point where they are launching the kind of campaign and have presented a substantial brief to the cabinet. I don't know whether the minister has seen it yet or not, but they have presented a brief to the cabinet and it's a very well documented brief. I can assure you that you haven't heard the last from your servants. You must indeed free them from Bill 105.

Another aspect of the colleges I feel obliged to mention is the boards of governors. The boards of governors of the colleges are representative of something but I can tell you they are not representative of the com-

munities in which they are located. They are representative of the establishment in the various communities. They are representative of the Council of Regents, I believe, and probably of the government of Ontario, but they are surely not representative of the community at large.

If you go through the boards of governors of the 22 colleges, there are 250 or 260 members of the different boards of governors, and I am sure there are no more than 40 or maybe 45 of those who are women. I am sure a lot fewer than that are represented from the ranks of the trade union movement when, after all, it's the working people who build those colleges by and large with their taxes and also it's the sons and daughters of working people who are attending those colleges. There are statistics to support that.

It's just not right that the boards of governors are not more representative. It's no wonder they have not achieved the kind of acceptance they should have. I think most of us would accept that. Unless you are terribly defensive about it, I think you would agree there has been some lack of acceptance there. Unless they have people on the boards of governors who are from this list of people I read a few minutes ago, then how are they going to know what direction the college should be moving unless they are more representative of the community?

I think the colleges are still way behind the universities. In the latter there is a feeling that there needs to be involvement by the community. By the community I mean, the students, the faculty, and the community at large. But the debate on the U of T Act, which is going to be coming up, talks about something as incredible as parity between students and faculty and the governing council. Well, my God, in the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology there is not one single student and not one single faculty member as a voting member of the board of governors except, I believe, at Cambrian College where one Mr. Davidson, who is an instructor at the college, was nominated to the board because he was an alderman for the city of Sudbury. He was a municipal appointee; he was not an appointment from the faculty.

And, believe it or not, that was pointed out to him. They hoped he realized he was not appointed as a faculty member. What could be more incredible than that? They are not asking him to wear two hats, they are asking him to wear two heads. How can you do that? It is too ludicrous in this day and age to say to the students: "You cannot be on the boards of governors;" to say to the

faculty, "You cannot be on the boards of governors."

The thing that depresses me is that some of the faculty at the colleges have gone along with the whole idea of being observers on the boards of governors. I would have hoped that the colleges would have said, "That is tokenism we find offensive" and would have refused to sit as observers on boards of governors.

My God, I am sad that they have conceded that point and are actually sitting as observers. What an insult to those people who are, in the end, going to make or break the colleges. Then you keep them off the boards of governors. It is within your power to make it mandatory that every board have representation from faculty and students. That is not difficult, and yet the ministry drags its heels on it year after year, and continues to shake its head about attrition rates and faculty morale. It just doesn't make sense. You deserve what is happening there but the students don't and it is time you moved in that regard.

I think it was the former minister who made a comment about a year ago that a lot of members of boards of governors didn't take enough of an interest in the colleges' role. Can you not see that if you put faculty and students on the board they have a very real interest in what is going on in the colleges and the direction they are going? You really must do that. It is ridiculous that you have the universities, with a much more sophisticated form of government and then you have the colleges, where it is truly autocratic. I don't think I am over-stating it. There is no senate in the colleges, no representation on the board of governors. If you even had one or the other.

I think that is a very important area if you are going to get things moving in the colleges. It leads to things like the faculty not knowing what money is available, being told there is no money in the college for expenditures, then a week before the budget date is due, being told they have to spend so much money and they had better spend it very quickly. That is happening in the colleges. One reason is because you do not have open budgeting at the college. You do not have the faculty and you probably don't even have the chairman of the college aware of the total budget picture in the college. You probably have the president and the controller aware, and maybe the deans, and that is it.

That is another aspect of democratizing. Open up the books. It is a public institution,

for heaven's sake. Open up the books and let the people see the kind of money that is available to them and let them have a say in how it is distributed in the college. It is nothing to do with privacy or with individual salaries. That doesn't have to be revealed.

To comment a moment on the capital spending moratorium; I find myself ambivalent about the whole thing. I probably would have instituted the moratorium in 1965 when the colleges were announced. I think at that point I would have said, "We are going to create these marvellous institutions but we are not going to institutionalize them." I shouldn't call them institutions. "We are going to create this whole new concept of community colleges but we won't allow you to build campuses into institutionalized yet again post-secondary education."

Let the universities build their campuses with the moats around them up on the hill. The colleges should not have been allowed to do that but once they did, once you started them off in that direction and you started building these campuses across the province, the direction those colleges were going to take was predetermined. It was inevitable from the day you went ahead with that that they were going to become institutionalized and they are not going to be able to go out into the community.

How can they do both? How could you build up these tremendous institutions, with all of the administrative overhead, the capital cost involved, and say to them, "You've got to spread yourself throughout the community"? It would be too much of a contradiction. They are schizophrenic as it is and you couldn't have done it. Once that direction was taken by the colleges they had to proceed and when you crunched them with the moratorium, you wondered why they screamed because their direction was clearly there.

They were half-way in their development. They were in the embryonic stage of development compared to the universities. The universities were established; they had their buildings and their campuses and they could cope with the moratorium. Besides, enrolment in the universities was not going up as fast as in the colleges. But the colleges were half-way in their development, their capital expenditures and you declare a moratorium while their enrolment was going up. Unless you are prepared to change the direction of the colleges you should let them build the required buildings now.

Now if the moratorium, on the other hand, had the effect of changing the direction of the colleges so that they did go out into the communities and did cater to those groups which are not being catered to now, I would have cheered your moratorium and would have supported you all the way—not that you require my support; but I certainly would have. I think a lot of other people would have, too; perhaps even the people in the colleges would have. But you didn't do that. You just declared a moratorium and there's a hiatus in the colleges; they're in a state of suspended animation.

Why didn't you use that time, when you declared the capital spending moratorium, to give the colleges that kind of push into the community so that they could truly become at one with the community and so that they could have all sorts of locations throughout the community? That applies particularly in northern Ontario but not just there. That's why I think you made a mistake with the moratorium.

You are going to call off the moratorium. You have announced you are relaxing it already and I assume that George Brown will be No. 1 on the list when it is relaxed—if it has not already been—and that Cambrian College, phase III, will be No. 2. I don't know what will be the next stages. I think you must relax the moratorium now with the enrolment growth which has occurred. I suppose it has grown by about 20 per cent since the moratorium was declared—I'm not sure of that—so obviously there has to be some breathing room for the colleges.

I would ask you what you think has been accomplished in the colleges during that period of time when the moratorium was in effect. I think you lost an opportunity to make an open sector in Ontario unnecessary. Now you are going to relax it and the colleges will go ahead and increase the size of their campuses and they will become yet further institutionalized. I think you stand condemned—while you are a new minister you represent the ministry—for not having used that opportunity to change direction.

Another aspect of this ministry which bothers me is the whole question of tuition fees, and we will get into that in more detail when we get to student aid. It's clear—I think you have already announced it—that there will be no increase in 1974-1975 but I detect almost a sense of psychological warfare here when you say: "No, none this year, but no commitments in the future." I think you are preparing students for an increase in the next year or two along the

lines of the COPSE report which indicated that students are consumers and should pay a larger portion of it. I'd agree most fundamentally with that. The whole question of a contingency repayment scheme where students pay it back afterwards, I think, is repulsive.

I hear the argument used by ministry people, that if you remove tuition fees you are really catering to the upper income levels because these are the people who attend universities and colleges. That's not a good argument. It's not at all logical, because tuition fees are a deterrent only to the low-income people. They are the people who would benefit the most.

Besides, you know, when I see the convolutions this government can go through with taxation, it would be no problem to add a point on the income tax scale to assume the responsibility of tuition fees. If you can do what you've done to the land speculation tax, you can do anything. So I don't think there is a problem in implementing it.

There is all sorts of evidence to support what I'm saying—that there shouldn't be any tuition fees. I'm going to refrain from dealing with it now, but there is all sorts of evidence to indicate that tuition fees are a real barrier to families in the lower socio-economic levels. If you are serious about making education more open in the province, that's a good place to start. I will draw to your attention some of the research that has been done on this subject when we get to the vote.

I talked about the boards of governors of the colleges. I'd like to compare it to the University of Toronto Act just very briefly, and then deal with it in more detail later.

As you know, the University of Toronto Act is supposed to come before the Legislature. I don't know what your plans will be for it in the fall, whether you will debate it before the Legislature or a standing committee. I would be interested in a response from you on that, too.

There you have the situation where on the governing council there are now, I think, 12 faculty members and eight students, out of a total of 48. They are asking for 14 faculty members and 14 students on an expanded governing council, which would include, I think, about 65 people. What the students are really saying is that they want a piece of the action. I hope that when you are debating that you will keep in mind the situation in the colleges and their lack of participation—from zero in the colleges to 14 out of 65 in the universities.

The Liberal Party critic talked about sex discrimination in the colleges. While I don't intend to deal with that subject at length, there are a number of areas where the colleges are vulnerable on that charge. One area, of course, is on the board of governors. It's obvious. That situation hasn't changed much surprisingly in the last couple of years. I thought that things would change when the government brought out its green paper, when it appointed the Ontario Council on the Status of Women and when it appointed a woman to look after Crown employees and, I think, discrimination in the civil service. But things really aren't changing very much in this respect. The ministry could have a great deal to do with making changes.

A considerable amount of sex stereotyping exists in the colleges as well in the programmes—for example, in nursing and secretarial programmes. There is a dispute going on right now in which the librarians, who, I think about 85 per cent are female, are disputing the classification given them by the college, or by the Council of Regents I suppose indirectly, in that they are classified differently to counsellors or teachers in the college. Rightly so, they don't see why they're classified lower, and there's a significant difference in their wage rates. I think it's as much as \$4,000 at the maximum wage rates for librarians versus counsellors. You can't use the argument that the fact that the teachers are in the classroom makes the difference, because the counsellors aren't in the classroom either. If the counsellors are paid along the same level as the teachers, there is no reason why the librarians shouldn't be either—I'm talking now about given equal qualification and experience. The maximum level of salary is \$4,000 lower for librarians.

I quote very briefly from a report by a fellow named Porter, with whom most of us are familiar because of his "Vertical Mosaic." With Bernard Blisken, a professor of sociology and dean of graduate studies at Trent University, he talks about sex discrimination. They say:

The level of tuition fees that now exist do not require commensurate sacrifices from high-income families. Their children can go to Europe in the summer and still go to university, but they are a barrier to low-income families whose children must work and save.

[That's not what I wanted to read to you.]

The survey also found that far fewer girls than boys expect to go to university after high school, and the proportionate increase is in the lower classes. The authors

have noted that it is financially more difficult for girls to go to university because lower class parents are less willing to spend money on girls than on boys; because it's more difficult for them to get jobs in the summer and because when they do they earn less.

So there is ample evidence that what the ministry is condoning in the colleges does, indeed, discriminate against women. Not that we should be surprised, of course. And if the member for the Liberal Party was serious about the whole question of discrimination, he wouldn't talk the way he did about salary levels. Women are as surely a part of a class system in the Province of Ontario as are the working poor. And I've never heard a Liberal yet claim that he was willing to remove the class system in the Province of Ontario. So I can't take him very seriously with his discrimination.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It's a great party though.

Mr. Laughren: No, there's is no such thing as a great free-enterprise party.

One other aspect of the ministry that I personally feel very strongly about is the question of bilingualism. I have no conflict of interest here because I'm not bilingual. But I represent an area that is, indeed, bilingual and is not getting the support—not even getting near the support—that is required if they are going to do a serious job.

You are truly vulnerable on the bilingual question; you stand condemned because there is no serious commitment for bilingualism. I hate to think it's because of the roots of the Tory Party in the Province of Ontario, but I really do wonder because it is so blatant as to be offensive to bilingual people in Ontario.

The Wright report—or the COPSE report—indicated that Cambrian College should be a bilingual institution. Well we've really moved—now there are three bilingual programmes in Cambrian and next year there is going to be a fourth.

At least the Ministry of Education has moved somewhat. In the Sudbury basin right now there are five French secondary schools which will be graduating students in the Sudbury area. Five! And this ministry behaves as though that's not going to have any impact at all on the demand for French education at the post-secondary level.

As a matter of fact, if you look at the grant figures for support for bilingual education at Laurentian, it's obvious the ministry thinks that there is going to be fewer. For three successive years the bilingual grant for

Laurentian has not increased. It has been \$540,000 for the last three years. As a matter of fact, last year, you tried to reduce it to \$347,000—from \$540,000 the previous year. That's some commitment to bilingualism. It wasn't until the president and other people in the community, including myself, started to write letters to the ministry that it was raised back up to \$540,000. This year it's \$540,000 again.

I don't know whether you think an institution like that is immune from inflation, or what your thinking is. But that's a decrease in real terms to support bilingualism at Laurentian, and it's inexplicable. I'm truly looking forward to the minister's response on that.

There was a ministerial commission on French language secondary education which indicated there should be increased support for bilingual programmes. The Laurentian senate committee on academic planning indicated two years ago—I think it was two years ago—that they were making a commitment to expanding the bilingual programmes at Laurentian. The response by this ministry is to in effect decrease the grants, because you can't leave grants at the same level for three years and think that you can accomplish the same things every year with them.

This causes some problems internally at the university, as well. And if the minister was to go there and talk to different people in the university, I'm sure he'd detect a sense of resentment in the university. There is a resentment from both sides. The people who feel very strongly about bilingualism feel that they are not getting their share. So they resent the fact that the English programmes are the ones that really count. The English, the people who would just as soon see a unilingual institution there, feel that the draining off of the institution's resources to the French programme is causing the English programmes to be second-rate.

So you have the worst of both worlds. You have resentment from both sides; and I hate to use the word "sides." But both programmes are suffering—the English programmes and the French programmes—because of your half-baked commitment to bilingualism. That's just not good enough.

The solution is to fund the actual cost of the French programmes. I would say that that should include administrative costs of those programmes, as well. Sooner or later you are going to have to make that decision—whether or not you are going to regard the Sudbury basin as bilingual, and whether or not you are going to continue to allow the

graduates from those five French-speaking secondary schools to go to Ottawa University. Because that's what's happening, and that's going to increase in the future. Laurentian just can't offer a proper bilingual programme with the kind of funding they are getting right now.

Please, Mr. Minister, don't use any specious arguments like "the CUA recommended the \$540,000." CUA doesn't determine who gets what money. They make recommendations only; that final decision is yours. Please don't use that other argument that's even more incredible—that when Laurentian attracts more French students, they'll get more money because of the BIU funding, the formula financing.

How can they attract the students without the programmes? It's going to take a major commitment on the part of the ministry if they are going to be serious about a French-language programme and making it a bilingual institution. There was a conference at Laurentian a month or two ago. As a matter of fact, Dr. Parr was scheduled to speak and missed it; he couldn't get out of Toronto, anyway; I don't know what happened.

Dr. Parr: I got there late.

Mr. Laughren: Right. And I read Dr. Parr's speech, which strangely enough didn't talk about bilingualism. It talked about open education. I found that an ominous sign. I haven't talked to the people up there since. I asked them for copies of the minutes or recommendations out of that meeting, and I didn't get them. But the people I did talk to at the meeting were not feeling very optimistic about the possibility of the ministry taking them seriously. For the deputy minister to come to a conference on bilingualism and talk about open education I think was unfair to the people at the conference.

We know, for example, that the COPSE report documented that only half as many Franco-Ontarians received degrees as Anglo-Ontarians, and I think that's serious. And only a commitment, the likes of which we haven't seen prior to this in the post-secondary level, will make Laurentian a truly bilingual institution.

It would take the same kind of commitment for Cambrian. Cambrian has an advisory committee working on it but it doesn't even come close to being a bilingual institution and they don't pretend it is. At Laurentian, they regard themselves as bilingual, but

there is no way that there is equality of opportunity for French-speaking students in the Sudbury basin with their English-speaking counterparts.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Laughren, I just wondered, if probably you have a considerable amount of time that you want to spend on this in addition, maybe we could adjourn at this point. I just wondered. A number of the members have committed themselves to a dinner meeting tonight and possibly, under those circumstances, it is agreeable with the

members we might adjourn until after the supper hour.

Mr. Laughren: As a matter of fact, I am committed to that same supper, I believe, and I would be willing to adjourn.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am eating by myself but I would be glad to agree.

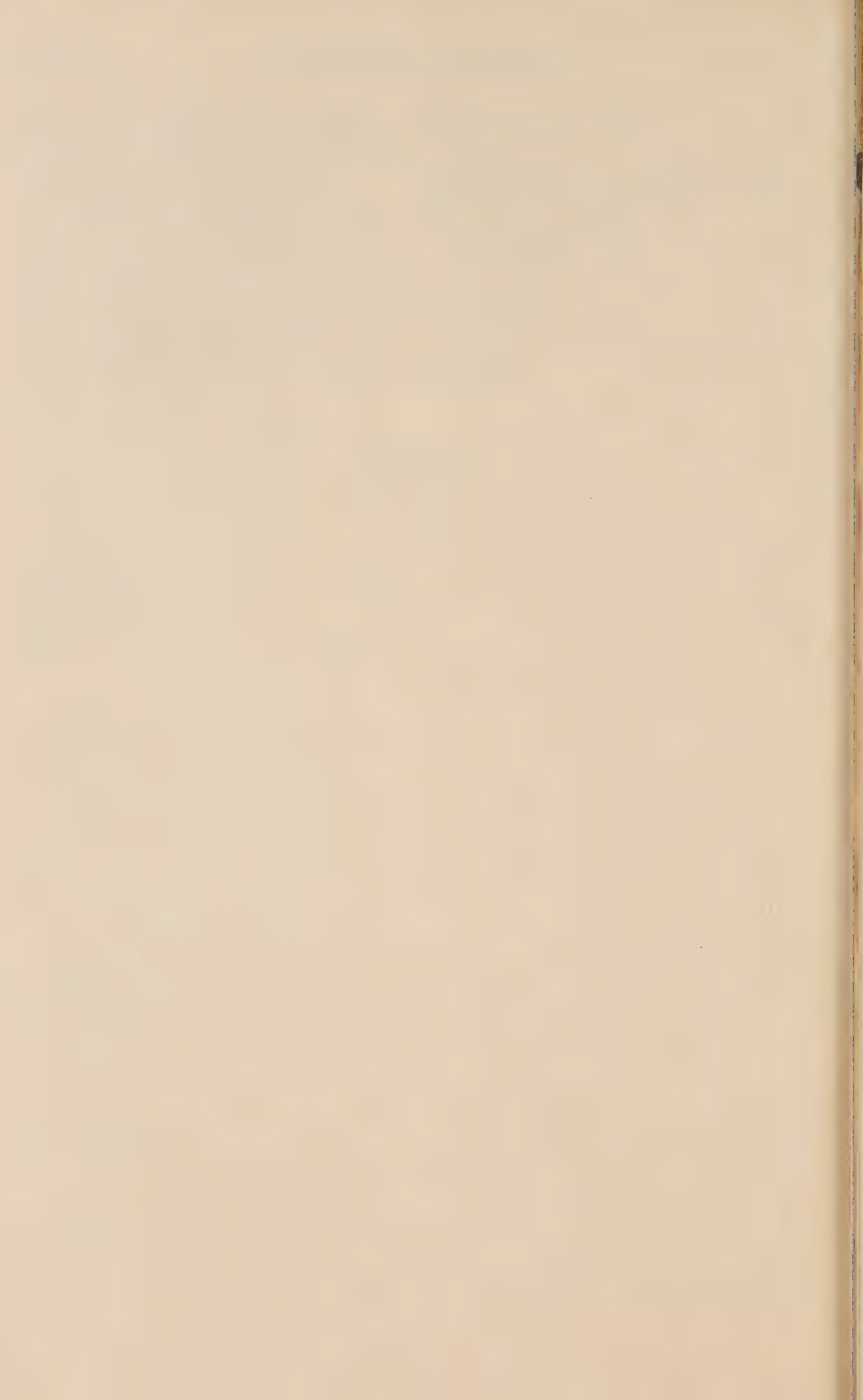
Mr. Chairman: The meeting stands adjourned until 8 o'clock.

It being 5:50 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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Standing Social
Development Committee
Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Thursday, May 30, 1974

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1974

The committee resumed at 8:20 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

(continued)

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): Mr. Chairman, I understand we are to proceed?

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Mrs. M. Campbell (St. George): Without a quorum?

Mr. Chairman: We accepted this principle this afternoon, on a previous occasion.

Mr. Laughren: I would only say, not to be provocative, Mr. Minister and Mr. Chairman, I really do think the Ministry of Colleges and Universities is a significant one and you should try to dredge up some of your members to participate in the debate.

Mr. Chairman: Of course he has.

Mr. Laughren: What do you mean, he has? There is not a single Conservative member sitting in the committee.

Mr. Chairman: I am afraid I am here.

Mr. Laughren: You are the chairman. You can't participate in the debate.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, we have a quorum. Is that understood?

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Colleges and Universities): Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: Fine. Let's go.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have one who can act for two who just came in.

Mr. Chairman: Exactly. Right, Mr. Laughren.

Mr. Laughren: There are one or two short points I want to mention before I conclude my remarks and we get on to the individual votes, Mr. Chairman.

One is the question of our provincial library system. It's the kind of issue a lot of

people just won't be bothered with because there are virtually no political gains to be made from debating the library system but I am concerned that the library system in Ontario is in a state of drift. It lacks the leadership and the co-ordination required if libraries are going to play the kind of role in Ontario that not only I think they will play and have the potential of playing but people like the people who sat on the Wright commission and the COPSE report think they should play. Those people saw there was a tremendous potential for libraries as part of the educational system. In the select committee on educational facilities, which I sit on, when we talk about the open sector in Ontario libraries continually come up as playing a key role in an open sector of education.

I don't believe you can have a dynamic library system unless you have a provincial library. As far as I know, no province has a provincial library, so the Province of Ontario doesn't lag behind the other provinces in that respect although it does lag behind some of the states south of the border. I believe we need a provincial library and I'll be even more specific than that; I'll give you some suggestions as to where you can start.

You can start with that blessed—I'll restrain my language here—Robarts Library. While I don't like to use the word "expropriate" or "confiscate" I can tell you that library should be expropriated as part of the beginning of a provincial library system in Ontario—as a provincial library—for a number of reasons: 1. Because of its collections. 2. Because of the tremendous investment in capital and administrative costs of that library. 3. Because the University of Toronto has not seen fit to make that library open to the people despite the fact that the people of Ontario—not the students at the University of Toronto—paid for that library. The university has not instituted a system or policy of open access to that library as it should have.

I can remember the battle that went on at the University of Toronto for undergraduates to use the blessed thing. The undergraduates won but it took a real battle; it took a sit-in. I thought we were back in the 1960s. There is no reason there should not be open access

to that library by all the people. I don't know what you or the University of Toronto are afraid of—that all of a sudden there will be 200,000 people running in off the street, trying to get access to the stacks? That library should be part of the provincial library.

I believe also that the St. George library could very well play a key part in a provincial library. I don't know whether you would want the whole central library on St. George to be part of a provincial library, but certainly I would recommend that a lot of its collections should be. Think of what you could do.

Right at the present time there is a feeling in Ontario that there is a great deal of money wasted because we do not have what would be effectually known as a bibliographic centre for the province, which would co-ordinate the regional or specialized data banks that are already in existence in the Province of Ontario. You have one for the colleges; I believe there is one for the provincial library system; the eight universities participate in a data bank.

If you had a provincial library with a provincial bibliographic centre, you could co-ordinate all the data that was available through those specialized data banks. It is not a case of making something more efficient or of centralizing something. On the contrary, you would already have your regional or your specialized data banks.

What I am suggesting would save the people of Ontario a great deal of money. Mr. Minister, do you have any idea what it costs to catalogue one item in a library, any idea at all? Let me tell you—\$35, that's the estimate—\$35 to catalogue each unique item. By unique, I mean an item that is not already in their selection; in other words, a new cataloguing for an item.

According to Statistics Canada, when they were writing about the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology who have a data bank going, if you do not have a data bank or a bibliographic centre for a college, there's an enormous difference in the cost of cataloguing. For example, if you have a biblio centre, the ratio of costs between acquisition and cataloguing and other related costs is about 50-50, maybe 40-60 per cent—that's how expensive it is to catalogue.

When I first started looking into this I found it hard to believe that these costs were so tremendous. I checked with my wife who is a librarian of sorts—by that I mean, not a library of science degree, but someone who has worked in libraries—

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Conflict of interest there.

Mr. Laughren: No conflict of interest—I really found it hard to grasp that it would cost this much to catalogue each item.

I believe there are only two colleges out of the 22 who are not plugged into the data bank. Those two colleges, I stand to be corrected on this, are Cambrian and Algonquin. I think the other 20 colleges are part of it. For those colleges that are not part of the data bank it costs about 50-50 to catalogue versus the other costs. But with the colleges that are plugged into it, the other 20, the ratio is 20-80. Now that's an enormous difference—20 per cent cataloguing costs versus 50 per cent. Those statistics are from Statistics Canada.

I'm not too sure of the reason why there seems to be reluctance in the ministry to implement a provincial bibliographic centre. I have my suspicions, but I don't have the kind of detailed knowledge or comprehensive knowledge of the library system that I would need in order to really understand why there is resistance. I have a feeling that the universities in the province are playing a key role in the resistance, because I think there are only eight universities that are now part of this university data bank. Somebody in the ministry is throwing up roadblocks to it, and if they're not I would like to know why the ministry, despite the experts' opinion that there should be a provincial bibliographic centre, has refused to implement one.

The cost savings to the entire province would be enormous, when you think about the savings that are evident just in the colleges themselves. I think that's an area in which the ministry should move most aggressively, because if you're serious about making the libraries an integral part of an open educational system in Ontario then it is incumbent upon you to make sure that the libraries play that role in the most efficient way possible and at the least cost to the taxpayer.

But costs are only part of it. The other aspect is the availability to all the different institutions, whether they be educational or cultural, of the kind of information that a provincial bibliographic centre would make available to them. It would be of enormous assistance to a library or to an institution to be able to plug into a computer that would do the cataloguing for them or make the information available to them that would say, "This is your cataloguing information." I can imagine how grateful the individual

libraries would be with this kind of loosening up of their budgets if you could take away the extreme costs of cataloguing from them.

When the ministry talks about decentralizing its cultural activities, such as with Outreach, that's fine. I agree with you, I think that's a move in the right direction. But when you refuse to move on libraries in such a way that while it would appear to be centralizing it really wouldn't be, because all you would be doing is having each of the regional or specialized data banks making available to the people who use them information that's centralized—in other words, cataloguing information—that's not centralization, that's allowing the regions or the individual institutions to become more efficient and more productive and to serve their clientele in a better way.

Those were the main points of the general remarks I want to make. Mr. Minister, it's difficult for someone who believes in a different ideology, as I do, to debate some things, because I realize that if I convince you to change some things—even a dyed-in-the-wool Tory such as you—what I'm doing, in effect, is convincing you to patch up your system a little bit so that it works a little better for you.

I happen to believe that we have the educational system in Ontario that very, very neatly controls people's expectations—an education that indicates to people that because they're not very bright they really can't expect too many rewards out of this society is a very, very effective way of making them accept the status quo and keeping them down on the farm. I find that just completely against what I believe education should be—namely, an agent for social change.

I realize that, as the government, that's not your concern, that your concern is just the opposite: To ensure that the educational system supports the status quo. How else would you explain an educational system that teaches students to be uncritical, and penalizes students who are critical of their teachers and of the system they represent?

It means that the educational system is full of self-fulfilling prophecies because, if you tell a student that he can't really hack it in this system because he isn't terribly bright and you fail him, then of course he won't partake of the rewards of this society because you've decreed that he's not bright. Therefore, what else can he expect other than to be relegated to that part of society that doesn't achieve the rewards that other people, whom the system has said are bright, will receive?

It's a sad commentary that the educational system does this to people. I think it's exactly the opposite of what an educational system should be. I think an educational system should raise people's expectations rather than restrict them but I realize that you, as Minister of Colleges and Universities, cannot turn that around by yourself if you wanted to. Of course, I have no illusions about whether or not you want to change the system at all.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Just so long as I could help you by trying to get you back to teaching.

Mr. Laughren: I'm sure that you will in 1975. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Laughren. I'm sure the minister would want to comment on some of the remarks that have been made this afternoon and again this evening by the two representatives of the opposition parties.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Very briefly, without going into the details of some of the matters that were raised that we can deal with in the votes when we come to them, there were a couple of things that I thought I might just comment on.

The member for Windsor-Walkerville was speaking about the BIU revision. I'm informed that there has been a committee working on it for about three years. The university presidents and the Committee on University Affairs are represented. I think it's generally agreed that the formula that has been used for the last 10 years doesn't apply today as far as universities are concerned. It worked very well when enrolments were growing. Now that they're levelling off it is difficult, particularly for some of the smaller institutions.

Mr. B. Newman: That's right. This is where I express my concern.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That's one of the first tasks for the new council to deal with. In the meantime, we have a series of several different grants, emerging institutions and so on, that we'll probably deal with in detail when we get to that vote which, I think, have solved the really horrendous immediate problems but still haven't solved anything long-term. That's one of the difficulties that we're presently wrestling with. It relates, in answer to the member for Nickel Belt, in a sense to Laurentian's problem, which is not entirely bilingual. It's also an emerging institution

and has some problems that three or four of the universities have.

Mr. Laughren: I know the emerging university is bilingualist, so don't obfuscate the debate.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, no. If you take a look at the bilingual grants they're the highest there of any place but they still haven't solved the problem because of some of the things that you were mentioning about borrowing—robbing Peter to pay Paul. No doubt we'll have some further discussions about that when we get to that vote.

As far as the enrolments are concerned, one of the things that the member for Windsor-Walkerville mentioned about decreasing enrolments in the universities is partly for the other reason you mentioned. Some students are wondering about some of the courses their predecessors were taking, and passed, that didn't help them economically when they graduated. The students are taking a closer look. In the community colleges which are far more directly job-oriented, a lot of students who otherwise might have gone to university are going to community colleges.

One of the reasons for the dropouts is that a lot of kids spend a year in community college and don't complete their course because they've already been offered a job. We can get into the figures and the details when we get to the specific votes.

Mr. Laughren: You are as hard to hear in here as you are in the House.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes, you are.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You are just lucky, that's all.

Mr. Laughren: Speak into the microphone—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Um—

An hon. member: I doubt that that's going to help.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, that was a pretty good "um" wasn't it?

Again, when we get to that vote, Bernie, you mentioned the COPSE report and the Dymond report. I can give you a rundown of the recommendations that have been accepted from the COPSE report—the ones that have been accepted in part, the ones which we are still looking at and the ones which in some degree we have not accepted.

Regarding the Dymond report, there have been a number of inquiries because there are

a great many people who are very interested in those recommendations. We have asked all the people who have written us or phoned us or been in to see us to make their own submissions to us either supporting or arguing the recommendations by about—they extended the deadline from September to October. In the meantime we will be looking at it ourselves, but we don't propose to do anything in a major way until we have had all the responses from the various groups and agencies who would be affected. There are quite a number of these.

Mr. B. Newman: Do you have a committee of your people studying the reports?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We have got a group of our own people who are looking at the reports from our own point of view—

Mr. B. Newman: All right, that's what I meant.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —and who will be collating the comments that come in so we can take a look at the whole thing, probably in the late fall. When we get into student awards, we'll probably be talking about the part-time students and their special difficulties and the things that we are presently doing to try to alleviate those and the pilot scheme and perhaps what we may be able to do from the experience that we've gained in just about a year now.

In terms of records and costs, and so on, you were asking about—or was it Floyd?—about post-graduate costs. One of the difficulties that we do have is getting sufficient information from the various institutions, not sort of personal invitation, but breakdowns in some of these things, and that is improving. But I think it would be very difficult to answer the questions that you posed in detail because I don't think we have the detailed data from the institutions as yet.

In the Council on University Affairs bill there is a clause about obtaining information of a general nature which is pretty important when you are looking at things like the formula, the BIU. For the new council, or even the old committee, to make valid judgments on some of the aspects was very difficult because we just didn't have the kind of detailed information about cost breakdowns in the institutions, on which perhaps they could base a better recommendation than they had been able to make in the past.

Mr. B. Newman: Shouldn't you possibly require them to have that type of a break-

down so that there could be a valid comparison between institutions?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is exactly what we are presently wrestling with. There are certain problems about confidentiality, and so on, as far as personal records are concerned. I think we can overcome that, but I think that when we are talking about \$500 million of public money, we are really going to have to have a little more detailed information than we have been able to obtain so far.

Mr. Laughren: You talk about confidentiality, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Hmm?

Mr. Laughren: How can you talk about confidentiality after you introduce that bill, the Ministry of Colleges and Universities Amendment Act?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That's what I say—we may have to make certain adjustments. But I think we still have to have more information than we are presently obtaining to make valid judgements about grant structures and so on. I don't think we want to look at faculty files or student files or anything like that.

On the final point you mentioned about libraries, I have the feeling from prior to the time I joined this ministry that we were attempting, perhaps not as rapidly as you might wish, to do the kind of thing you are talking about—an overall co-ordinated provincial library system. I can tell you that in certain parts of the province there is a very strong feeling against even regional libraries; there are local feelings on the part of people who have established libraries that if they go into a regional system they are going to lose something. I think that until we can sell or make effective the first step of having effective regional libraries, in my view, we would really be—if we start at the top and try to shove it down, I don't think it will be nearly as effective as if we get regional areas first of all, and get over the suspicion and lack of confidence in bigness which now exists.

Mr. Laughren: I don't see that what you say has any relevance. Surely a provincial library has nothing to do with the independence or autonomy of a library in Dryden or in Cornwall or in Kenora?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I couldn't agree with you more but there are a lot of library trustees—

Mr. Laughren: Okay, and the provincial bibliographical centre has nothing to do with

the independence or autonomy of a local library either.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But there are a lot of trustees who don't agree with you or me.

Mr. Laughren: I think that is a red herring you're throwing in.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The other problem, I think, is that some years ago when we were looking at the idea of the Ontario Science Centre and we travelled around to some of the great museums of the world, it was very interesting—and it wasn't the question of trying to detect it; it was pretty clear—a number of the people in charge of some of the great institutions really were not very anxious to have the public come in. They were so enamoured of their possessions they really felt that if somebody came and looked at them they were going to wear them out.

I don't know that that is a major problem in libraries but I do know that some of the collections in some of the libraries—universities and others—are one of a kind. There is a feeling, perhaps a proper feeling, on the part of chief librarians and boards of trustees that you can't let a priceless book out of the place to just anybody.

Mr. Laughren: Who is just anybody? I don't understand you.

Hon. Mr. Auld: This is what I am told.

Mr. Laughren: You can't pass off your opinions on others. That is not fair. Are you saying the librarians don't want to have the populace at large having access to priceless documents? Is that what you're saying?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, what I am saying is that some of the people currently responsible for those collections, either as librarians or trustees, say they are so valuable they can't go out of the place. If somebody wants to come and look at them, they can look at them.

Mr. Laughren: Fine, but make them available. It's like you fellows in the cabinet dining room.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The door is always open.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, but I never see anything but cabinet ministers in there.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The terrible thing is the prices are exactly the same. But with those few—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Laughren: It should be more; that's right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Just get there first, that's all.

Mr. M. Cassidy (Ottawa Centre): Meals geared to income.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As one sort of non-official comment, I would think the last thing you would want us to do is do all the things you say because if that would happen we would perpetuate ourselves in office.

Mr. Laughren: That is why I said it is always difficult suggesting you make changes to patch up your system to make it look better. There are some things you can't possibly do because of what it would mean in terms of the power structure in Ontario; changing the educational system is probably the key to that. I have no fears at all, when I make recommendations about changing the educational system, that you will implement them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If I could help you get back into it, as I say, I'll be—

Mr. Chairman: Have you completed your statement, Mr. Minister? Thank you, Mr. Minister. I think we will adjourn now for the vote which is going to take place in the House in the very near future.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I was wondering, why don't we—

Mr. Chairman: There is no question that this is going to happen, Mr. Minister, and I have already been advised.

Hon. Mr. Auld: May I read you what is in vote 2501? I thought it might be helpful, Mr. Chairman, seriously, because you will find in the estimates this year that a lot of things have been re-grouped and so that people can bring up the things they want to in the correct vote, if it is agreeable to the committee, I thought I would give you about half a minute—

Mr. Chairman: We can do that immediately following the vote in the House.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Is the bell ringing?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, it is ringing and it is going to stop.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I'm sorry.

The committee recessed at 8:45 o'clock, p.m., for a vote in the House and reconvened at 9:05.

On vote 2501:

Mr. Chairman: Ministry administration programme, item 1.

Mrs. Campbell: The minister was about to make a statement.

Mr. Chairman: Oh, did you want to make a statement?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I just thought I would run down what is in the vote this year so that everybody will know. It includes the operation of the main office, the policy and planning co-ordination office and the common services division.

The main office consists of the offices of the minister, deputy ministers and parliamentary assistants, and includes funds for non-statutory grants to organizations that provide a special contribution to post-secondary education and cultural activities. For instance, the Ontario Association for Continuing Education, the Champlain Society, Frontier College and the Canadian Association for Adult Education. Funds are also provided for this ministry's share of the provincial grant to the Council of Ministers of Education. The other portion of it is in the education estimates.

The policy and planning co-ordination office was established during 1973-1974. Its purpose is to ensure that the planning, development and analysis of ministry policy is timely and effective by participating in, co-ordinating and initiating policy and planning activities in the ministry. A total of \$700,000 has been provided under services for ongoing and new educational research studies contracted for by the ministry.

The common services division was also established under the reorganization in 1973-1974, with a view to centralizing the functions which are common to the ministry's various programmes, and has such responsibilities for accounting and administration, information, audit, personnel, statistics, institutional accounting and architectural services.

Mr. Chairman: 2501, item 1.

Mr. Laughren: Sorry, but I didn't want to talk about this particular vote. I wanted to say to the minister I'm disappointed that he is not responding to the kind of leadoffs that both parties made. I think it's fair to request that you respond at least to some of the broad policy areas which we brought up in our leadoffs. I'm thinking of things like bilingualism, the direction of the colleges; things that are very broad. I agree that they are very specific things, and we should wait until we

get into the individual votes; I have no problem with that. But I think it would be fair to have your response; rather than the response of your officials a week from now.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would say, Mr. Chairman, that if the committee wishes, they will have both. But it seemed to me that because we cover something at almost every vote, and so often people are here on one occasion and not on another, that it might become a little repetitive.

Mr. Laughren: I don't dispute that. That's why I restricted it to very broad policy areas.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps I restricted it even more than you would wish.

Mr. Laughren: You restricted it totally.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You'll have lots of time.

Mr. Chairman: We will deal with it under the votes.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell, yes.

Mrs. Campbell: Before you get into the vote, I would like to note what seems to me to be very significant, perhaps particularly because of the breakdown that the minister gave to us. You have, of course, what we've learned to expect—the expansion of administrative costs—but it's interesting that main office and common services are up reasonably substantially; and that portion which concerns policy and planning seems to be, shall we say, somewhat of a token kind of reflection of the importance accorded that branch. I would have hoped, perhaps, if you are concerned about policies, we might have seen something attached to that which we could have latched on to as a forward-looking step. It does concern me. Policy and planning so often seem to be set up under a heading that indicates that something is happening, but the funding doesn't reflect that anything greatly is happening.

Mr. Chairman: Are you suggesting that we combine items 1 and 2?

Mrs. Campbell: No. That was a general comment—

Mr. Chairman: I see.

Mrs. Campbell: —and I just feel that in all of these areas the administration is always up, and policy and planning never seem to have any great emphasis.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Actually, if you look into the totals and look at the complement, which is mainly administrative, and that's in the overall sense—our complement is up 2.2 per cent—but in terms of bodies, Frank—

Mr. F. J. Kidd (Executive Director, Common Services Division): Thirty-nine bodies, from 917 to 956.

Mr. Laughren: Thirty-nine what?

Hon. Mr. Auld: And most of those, the net, are the people we got from—

Mr. Kidd: We got some from the Ministry of Health, some from the Ministry of Labour, and we transferred some to the Ministry of Government Services.

Dr. J. G. Parr (Deputy Minister): But I think, Mr. Chairman, that Mrs. Campbell's comment does have a specific reply, because the changes in the amount of money don't really reflect the true position of it. I think that Mr. Kidd can answer that.

Mr. Kidd: The total salaries and wages for the ministry, as shown in the estimates this year, are up by \$1,033,600 over last year. This represents a net increase of 10 per cent, which is a result of annual salary awards—about seven per cent average—merit increases, and the increased complement of 10 per cent overall administrative salaries and wages increase.

Mrs. Campbell: The bells are ringing.

Mr. Chairman: I imagine it is a quorum this time.

Mr. Kidd: With respect to the policy and planning board, Mrs. Campbell, we reallocated some of the costs out of the policy and planning office to other divisions where it was more appropriate that these particular costs be shown.

For example, I think if you remember last year we showed the part-time bursary programme under policy and planning office. Really, that programme should have been listed under student affairs, and that is where we put it this year. So by reallocating such costs to the appropriate vote heads, there has not been a decrease, but there is a sort of hold-the-line situation.

Mrs. Campbell: When we get to that vote, I will have some questions.

Hon. Mr. Auld: And the other thing—and you will find it throughout our estimates and all the other estimates—is that this year all

the non-permanent civil servants' salaries are no longer shown in the salaries and wages vote. They are shown in services, because they are, in effect, contract employees. So you will see an increase in all the service end, and the main part of that is the fact that all the contract employees are shown there now. It does make it a little confusing because there has been a considerable re-allocation of people, as Frank said, from last year, when we were just in the throes of re-organization, to this year when everybody has now been settled as much as anything ever is settled in government.

Mrs. Campbell: So, in effect, next year we will be told the same thing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I don't—

Mr. Chairman: Does item 1 carry?

Mr. Laughren: Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Oh, Floyd.

Mr. Laughren: What does your parliamentary assistant (Mr. Parrott) do?

Hon. Mr. Auld: He assists me.

Mr. Laughren: Does he have a special area of responsibility?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are sort of sharing responsibility in a number of areas—

Mrs. Campbell: He's a practical man—

Mr. B. Newman: The chairman is even laughing.

Hon. Mr. Auld: He has responsibilities in representing the ministry in the meetings of the 55 different groups we deal with—and all the sub-groups involved in seeing the many delegations that come to visit us, in dealing with a good deal of correspondence, with—as a matter of fact, he must be in the office tonight. He was here this afternoon—

Mr. B. Newman: Being nominated to run federally.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Really the sharing of a good deal of the load with the minister.

Mr. Laughren: Does he have an executive assistant and a driver?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Laughren: Not even a driver?

Hon. Mr. Auld: He has a secretary.

Mr. Laughren: But not a driver?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not a driver, not even a—well, I assume he has a car, but it's not a government car.

Mr. Laughren: But he has access to a government car.

Hon. Mr. Auld: He does on government business.

Mr. Chairman: We are getting off on a grasshopper deal here. How did it get around to there?

Mr. Laughren: Not at all, the parliamentary assistant's salary is in this vote.

Mr. Chairman: I know, but we were dealing with it item by item.

Mr. Laughren: Oh, okay.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I just want to ask of the minister, are the officials that we have here all main office officials now?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I see somebody from the Science Centre, the archivist, and the secretary of the archaeological—

Mr. B. Newman: But they are actually the top officials in the various branches of the ministry?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not all of them.

Mr. B. Newman: No, I understand so.

Dr. Parr: Representatives of most of our divisions are here.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I notice there is only one lady of the lot.

Mrs. Campbell: Oh, of course.

Mr. B. Newman: Are you not attempting to correct that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I couldn't tell you exactly how many women we have in the ministry and what their—

Mrs. Campbell: In the top echelons is what we are talking about, and you can see that that's pretty obviously answered.

Dr. Parr: I wonder if I might attempt something of an answer? I do appreciate the problem. The increase in the staff, of course, is small. You might be interested to know, Mr. Chairman, that on a recent occasion when a senior position was advertised, out of 100 applicants I think five applicants were women.

Mrs. Campbell: Well.

Dr. Parr: We are, of course, anxious to try to redress the fact that there isn't a decent balance, but it isn't the easiest thing to do over a very short period of time, particularly when responses to it—

Mrs. Campbell: Well, it would make a difference. Are you running a quota system?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I don't think we would ever want to run any kind of a quota system.

Mrs. Campbell: I would be with you on that.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, I want to ask one more question. I notice that your increase in grants to financial assistance to the colleges and universities was roughly 7.1 per cent. The wage settlement—

Hon. Mr. Auld: The total actually works out at about 14. The BIU is up 7.1 and then there were the other supplementary grants that I didn't deal with in detail. I said we could discuss them when we got to the vote.

Mr. B. Newman: I see, but in the increase of the BIU by 7.1 per cent, was that as a result of the salary raise of 7 per cent too? Did you try to hinge one to the other?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I couldn't tell you. I think there were a lot of factors that went into it. The increase in percentage support is about 10 per cent. The increase in money going to the institutions is about 14, because in addition to the increases in the grant ratios there are about four per cent more undergraduates and 10 per cent more post-colleges, yes.

Dr. Parr: About four per cent at the universities and about roughly 10 per cent at the colleges.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, 10 per cent at the colleges yes.

Mr. B. Newman: Okay, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Lawlor.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): I'm sort of interested, what is the complement in the main office staff? Just the numbers.

Dr. Parr: Fourteen, sir.

Mr. Lawlor: Fourteen, is that an increase over the previous year?

Mr. Kidd: Yes.

Mr. Lawlor: To what extent?

Hon. Mr. Auld: One of them would be the parliamentary assistant's secretary, because we didn't have a parliamentary assistant at the beginning of last year, I guess.

Mr. Kidd: There is an increase of four. That represents the parliamentary assistant and his secretary, communications co-ordinator, and a health sciences co-ordinator, two new positions created as a result of the re-organization.

Mr. Lawlor: What in heaven's name is a communications co-ordinator?

Mrs. Campbell: A PR man.

Dr. Parr: No, actually it is not.

Mr. B. Newman: It is another name for PR, though.

Dr. Parr: The ministry has many divisions which themselves are divided into many branches, and the problem of maintaining some consistent mode of communication to the client groups that we have becomes a substantial one, and even of course to the branches and divisions within the ministry themselves it is quite substantial. One of the COGP reports recommended, and we accepted that recommendation, of making such an appointment so that these matters could be co-ordinated.

Reference was made earlier to the better appearance, for instance, of the student assistance awards procedure and brochure in the way it looked when it went out. This was probably the work of our communications co-ordinators.

Mr. Laughren: That is not the man who, when the new minister is appointed, would prepare the documents that indicate some possible embarrassing questions and suggested answers?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, but if I figure out what you might be asking, I would ask him to find the information from the various divisions.

Mr. Laughren: I see.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But that was before I arrived there.

Mr. Chairman: Are there any further questions on item 1?

Mr. Lawlor: I didn't, but now that there is a man I'm sure he's perfectly capable of doing that on his own from the brief con-

versation I had with him. In any event, give me another example, or two, as to what this distinguished and highly euphonious post involves.

Dr. Parr: Sir, I can give you one example. We have, in addition to the groups that we make transfer payments to directly, a large number of agencies each with their own information groups. By the way, I think you'll find that the information office of the average university has more staff in it than our own total communications and information group has.

Mr. Lawlor: Oh, I see. So you really feel put down.

Dr. Parr: I am just making the comment in passing.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes. Prestige.

Mr. Lawlor: Maybe we can do something about that too.

Dr. Parr: It appears to us to be necessary that the way in which the public be informed of the work of these many agencies is in some way made consistent and made worthwhile. Because if the public generally is not informed of what the agencies do, then it is less able to take advantage of the work of the agencies.

Mr. Lawlor: What does it do for you? It frees a very capable fellow like yourself, a first class deputy minister—I'm softening him up a bit for the blow—so he can think and be lifted to higher echelons. What man can get along without him? What did they do last year and the year before?

Dr. Parr: You will recall that until a couple of years ago, sir, the ministry had only the universities under its jurisdiction; and then the colleges joined us, then Manpower Training Centre, then, subsequently, a large number of agencies associated with the cultural area. For example, Festival Ontario, which was referred to earlier, is a matter which, if it's going to have its maximum impact, effect and enjoyment on the communities it goes to, requires a great deal of co-ordination; not only as an organization, but in the way it is presented to those people whom we hope would enjoy it. The communications co-ordinator would play a role in that activity.

Mr. Lawlor: I take it that people as highly erudite as yourself have read of the kind of amalgam of Peter's principle and Parkinson's Law. You are aware of all these strange motivations.

Dr. Parr: I'm so aware of the ordinance, sir, that I will not give a response to your question.

Mr. Lawlor: Yes. All right. What was that other post; that new post—some other type of agency?

Dr. Parr: Health sciences co-ordinator is a new title, but there has been for some time a person in the ministry who, in effect, was fulfilling that function. We have, as you will imagine from the complexity and costs of medical schools, a very substantial relationship with the work of the Ministry of Health. The man who is currently the health sciences co-ordinator was located, until this time, in the college affairs branch. He has now been moved from that branch because his work involves, and always did involve, not only the colleges, but the universities. It seemed more appropriate to give him that particular title and detach him from the college affairs branch.

Mr. Lawlor: You've got a gift of high plausibility but, from my point of view, low credibility. It really disturbs me. It does grow monstrously, that main office and all main offices—including, I guess, our main office, believe it or not. What is everybody doing? You have to ask the obvious question: Who co-ordinates the co-ordinator next year?

Mrs. Campbell: That comes next year.

Mr. Lawlor: That comes next, eh? What is the Council of Ministers of Education? I never attended one of those.

Hon. Mr. Auld: They're meeting next weekend in Banff. I won't be there.

Mr. Lawlor: You won't be there?

Hon. Mr. Auld: This is a national organization of the education ministers in each province. Some provinces have two ministries, with ministers in charge of post-secondary as well as primary and secondary education. It is a group that gets together to discuss common problems I am told—I have not yet attended a meeting. It is funded on a per capita basis by all the provinces, the main contributors of course being Ontario and Quebec. It discusses a number of matters of mutual concern and I am told doesn't always necessarily agree. It really acts as a co-ordinating body between the people responsible for education in the provinces.

Mr. Lawlor: This co-ordination is really enlightening. I wish I could keep some degree

of co-ordination. Do you think you could get somebody appointed?

Mrs. Campbell: He would be glad to.

Mr. Lawlor: If you can't do it on your own, get somebody else to do it for you.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You were talking about Parkinson's Law. Now you are talking about Parkinson's disease.

Mr. Lawlor: That was very good. You might even justify your high office here. Another quip like that and we will let your salary go through.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Once this one is through I won't worry.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): You know for a year the select committee of this Legislature had the misfortune to deal with the presidents of the universities. And I want to tell you about an exercise in futility.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Why don't we wait until we get to the university affairs branch?

Mr. Martel: I want to talk about main office because that is where—

Mr. Chairman: Well, let's talk about that.

Mr. Martel: That is precisely what I am talking about, Mr. Chairman, before you get rangy-tangy again tonight, I suggest you cool it—

Mr. Chairman: We have to do that almost every evening.

Mr. Martel: —because policy is made in head office.

Mr. B. Newman: Why don't you two fellows go up a tree?

Mr. Martel: I suggest to you that is where the consideration of that report will eventually take place. It will be in the main office.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It will be in the minister's office, as a matter of fact.

Mr. Martel: I would hope so, because we ultimately went to the printers, Mr. Chairman. The select committee report, after 11 months of consideration, went to the printers without the full documentation that they had requested simply because the university presidents played an obstructionist game with the select committee from day one. In fact, it became so frustrating at times that we considered a Speaker's warrant.

There is a rather strong statement regarding the conduct of the university presidents in that report. We deliberated long in an effort to come up with recommendations to the government which would still allow the autonomy to exist. But because we spend—what is it that this ministry is spending this year?

Mr. B. Newman: One billion dollars, almost.

Mr. Martel: One billion dollars, we certainly felt that government must, when it starts to put out that kind of money, have a say or an influence on what occurs in the universities, and certainly they object to that strenuously.

If they want to go back to the heyday of funding themselves and finding people to provide them with grants and so on out of the private domain rather than the public domain, that is fair game. But to take the attitude with the select committee of the Legislature that they did, really, I think it incumbent on this ministry to indicate to the presidents that we are funding—

Mr. Chairman: Order, please. I don't think this matter reflects itself in item 1 of vote 2501 at all, Mr. Martel.

Mr. Laughren: Don't be an orangoutang.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, I don't know what it is about you—

Mr. Chairman: Well, it doesn't reflect itself in item 1, and we are dealing with—

Mr. Martel: It certainly does.

Mr. Laughren: He didn't bother me.

Mr. Martel: Where in the hell do you think you are going to discuss policy of this ministry? Off in the—

Mr. Chairman: We are talking about Ontario committees that don't really reflect themselves—

Mr. Martel: Where does policy reflect itself?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In that particular one, Elie, I was very interested in your comments because earlier we had a passing comment on the bill which is presently in the House. I would say that this is fine in terms of policy to discuss it here or we may get into it when we get into the other university affairs vote. As far as I am concerned, Mr. Chairman, it is fine to discuss it at the moment, because it is sort of a

general thing although it relates to the universities and to the ministry primarily.

Mr. Martel: The ministry will formulate the policy out of the recommendation. They might throw them all out. I am concerned in discussing some of those recommendations. I have already seen the reply that has been sent to the various members by the universities. They don't want any infringement.

That was the area of contention during the entire debate. There was never any suggestion by the committee that we were conducting a Sen. McCarthy type of campaign. In fact, we deliberately kept a pretty low profile on the whole question of Canadian content in the university community. We deliberately didn't want to get into a hassle of naming names and people on various staffs and embarrassing anyone. We didn't want it to appear that it was a witch-hunt. It turned out that the university community saw it as a straight witch-hunt, and I don't know how one overcomes that.

Surely to God in future a select committee of the Legislature has to be recognized by that body for what it is. It is doing research at the instigation of the Premier who set up that select committee. It is intolerable to have those people totally ignore the requests for information and to wait some 11 months for that information to go to the printers without a full report. The University of Toronto certainly did itself well, I can assure you, in that whole escapade.

It seems to me there has to be some indication from this ministry that it will not tolerate that sort of effrontery any longer. I'm not saying that we interfere in the independent academic life in any university, but certainly when they get \$1 billion, most or a major portion of it going to universities, let's put it that way, they do have to answer to this Legislature, particularly on something as delicate as who is teaching what and what efforts are being made to change the position.

Our studies indicated, despite three, four or five years of real concern being expressed out in the public domain, that the very areas we were talking about when we put the figures together were the areas where the universities were taking absolutely no action. The social sciences didn't improve the number of people being hired with Canadian qualifications. How does one study the French-English situation in Canada when it uses as the base the black-white problem in the United States? And that is what is going on in some of the university courses, and that was our vital concern.

It is intolerable for these people just to ignore us, hoping we would go away. My friend, the member for Humber (Mr. Leluk), was with us and I know the frustrations he felt and all of us felt as we simply tried to get a handle on it in a very positive way. Their attitude was really a disgrace.

I'd like to know what the ministry intends to do with their attitude in future. It's very difficult to formulate it but one could say, "Well, gentlemen you are not going to get any funds." More importantly, you've now had an opportunity for many months to study the recommendations. We, as a committee, felt they were positive. They did not enforce quotas unless the universities in the long run themselves didn't see fit to change their hiring practices. It certainly worked very hard in not being discriminatory in any sense.

I'd like to know what the ministry's reaction is now, because we really haven't heard much after that report came in. I think it's time the ministry did indicate what it thinks of the report and in which direction it intends to move.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think we indicated support in the University of Western Ontario bill for the changes that were proposed there. I indicated subsequently that as the various university bills came up in that sense we would be recommending, if they were private bills, or proposing, if they were government bills, certain requirements in terms of citizenship as far as boards of governors and perhaps other aspects of the university were concerned.

As far as the question of information is concerned, we've had some discussions. There has been some concern on the part of universities, I think, and of faculty. I had a meeting with them, and I think we are reaching a point where we can get general agreement that the basic information that is required for the ministry, and primarily for the new Council of University Affairs, to make valid recommendations on will be forthcoming. We have been getting information a little more rapidly and in a little more detail than we used to. But there are still things we feel we do require which won't interfere with the operations of the institutions and will make our operations better.

Mr. Martel: Will you establish some type of monitoring procedure? I think that we felt that through monitoring who is being hired it could become self-rectifying. But it's only going to become self-rectifying if one is aware of what the hiring practices are.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I wonder if we could agree to the first vote. The second vote is the one we are really talking about now.

Mr. Martel: Okay, I'll pass. I'm co-operative as can be.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Are you?

Mr. Chairman: Item 1 carried?

Mr. Martel: I just don't like it when you're rang-a-tang, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Lawlor: Can we have a list of them—the grants in the old vote?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Do you want me to read them all?

Mr. Lawlor: I don't think so, Mr. Minister. I wonder if I might be supplied with a list?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Would you like a copy?

Mr. Lawlor: I don't want to consume all the time.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Has anybody got a spare?

Mrs. Campbell: Could I have one? Two spares at least.

Hon. Mr. Auld: There are two, four, six, eight, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17 of them—they've got 25. It starts with the University of Dundee at \$300, and it ends with the Conference on Historical Resources at \$500. But if it's agreeable to the committee I'll send all the members of the committee a copy.

Mr. Kidd: The institutions applying for such grants apply on an annual basis, and each application is reviewed annually. Although this list is the one on which the estimates are based, it is not final because some of these agencies or organizations might find themselves in a more advantageous financial situation than appears at present. Therefore the grant could be adjusted somewhat. So it's not a final list.

Mr. Lawlor: And this list varies considerably from year to year, I take it.

Mr. Kidd: It varies from year to year depending on what organizations come into the ministry and what events are happening throughout the province.

Mr. Lawlor: Are there any core grants that go on ad infinitum?

Mrs. Campbell: That's data. Don't say a word; that's the only way you really understand, comprehend and recognize the sept in Ontario.

Mr. Lawlor: Mrs. Campbell, I see. If it's going to Bonnie Dundee then \$300 is—

Mrs. Campbell: I knew that you would approve of it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I may say that the next one is Edinburgh and the one after that is Glasgow, Margaret.

Mrs. Campbell: There you are, you see?

Mr. Lawlor: What are the—

Mrs. Campbell: Where are the Irish? That's the next question!

Hon. Mr. Auld: Chairs—parts of chairs?

Mr. Kidd: The parts of chairs; established in 1966 to establish chairs in Canadiana in these various institutions, and the one in Glasgow, I think, commemorates the centennial of George Brown, the one in Edinburgh, I think, Sir John A. Macdonald, and the one in Dundee is, I think—

Interjection by an hon. member.

Hon. Mr. Auld: They are erecting a plaque there. Isn't that the same?

Mr. R. B. Apted (Director, Historical and Museums Branch): William Lyon MacKenzie.

Mrs. Campbell: William Lyon MacKenzie.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Guess who that's for?

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Lawlor: Well, I'd ask a little indulgence about this.

Mrs. Campbell: Not the Family Compact?

Mr. Lawlor: The minister says that perhaps if there is anything questionable, we could bring it up tomorrow without pushing it too hard.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You will notice that some of these are continuing on the basis of membership. Some others vary a bit from year to year depending on the events that the organization is having, such as a conference in Ontario as opposed to some place else.

Mr. Lawlor: Like this last thing.

Mr. Chairman: The general aspect then, we can approve.

Item 1 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2.

Mrs. Campbell: Item two, Mr. Chairman. I would like to know what planning is going on. I would particularly like to know whether

it's here that you are coming to grips with the discrimination in colleges and universities—with librarians in the colleges and universities specifically.

What is under review right now in this area, if anything?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That might take quite a while, but perhaps Dave Ferguson, who is the director, might give you a general picture.

Mr. D. J. Ferguson (Director, Policy and Planning Co-ordination Office): We have various roles in this organization, only one of which has to do directly with direct research or analytical projects, if that is the nature of the question?

Mrs. Campbell: I don't know. What are you analysing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps I could put it this way, the way I understand it thus far. We develop papers on policies in the various branches of the ministry which are co-ordinated through Mr. Ferguson's office. We get proposals in the policy field from other ministries that may relate in some way to us, which go to Mr. Ferguson's office and he, in turn, gets the comments and rules from the various related groups, divisions and agencies in our own ministry, and is given certain projects to develop where they have a joint application within our own ministry.

It's a co-ordinating function, I think primarily, with analytical and statistical basis and some research, but not the major part of it, I guess. Dave, is that roughly correct?

Mr. Ferguson: That's correct.

Mrs. Campbell: Could I have a for-instance?

Mr. Ferguson: One of the areas we are funding directly—a research project or analytical project—is in the area of status of women, just as an example. We have signed the contract with an independent researcher who is starting work next Monday on this project, and who will be examining the status of women as employees in the institutions and agencies which come under this ministry.

Mrs. Campbell: And who is doing that?

Mr. Ferguson: The name of the researcher we have contracted with is Lesley Lewis.

Mrs. Campbell: I presume Leslie is a male.

Mr. Ferguson: No.

Mrs. Campbell: No? A female?

Mr. Ferguson: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: Great. At least that's something.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We were looking for a Lesley because it can be confusing.

Mrs. Campbell: I thought that. Seriously though, how long is it contemplated this examination is going to take?

Mr. Ferguson: Approximately six months.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think some of the data that the McMaster study, which you mentioned, Bernie—

Mr. B. Newman: Right, and Queen's.

Hon. Mr. Auld: And Queen's too?—will be used in that.

Mrs. Campbell: Queen's, of course, is one of the worst offenders in this area. But what are you going to do in the meantime? Are you going to continue the librarians in a classification where they are really much lower in salary? Is it not obvious even to the male-dominated ministry that something should be done?

Hon. Mr. Auld: My understanding of that situation as far as the community colleges are concerned is that the CSAO bargains on behalf of all the staffs, both the administrative and the faculty staffs, of the colleges. And the salaries that have been arrived at, I assume, are based to some degree on whatever the civil service categories have been—male or female, because the salaries don't vary—for the librarians who have been in the government service. This is a matter for bargaining between the Council of Regents and the CSAO.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, it is just my understanding that librarians are classified in the same areas as counsellors and others but that their salary differential is quite marked.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I couldn't tell you about universities because they don't have any common denominator among them. The colleges are all on the same salaries for the same classifications and the person to ask about how they are arrived at would be the Chairman of Management Board (Mr. Winkler) who reports for the Civil Service Commission.

Mrs. Campbell: Don't refer me to that baby.

Last year when we discussed this matter we were given, as I understood it both here

and in the House, a commitment that when the federal government amended the Canada Pension Plan this would be followed in this ministry with colleges and universities. What is the status of that position?

Hon. Mr. Auld: In universities or in colleges—the civil service is in the Canada Pension Plans.

Mrs. Campbell: I think you will find that—

Dr. Parr: The universities, of course, have their own pension plans.

Mrs. Campbell: That's right.

Dr. Parr: Speaking of the colleges' pension plan I think we can be prepared to answer that but I think if—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Is Warren here?

Dr. Parr: Yes, he is here. Do you wish to have it answered now or in the college vote, Mrs. Campbell?

Mrs. Campbell: I want to get something straight as to where you are going because last year it was a put-off and I wouldn't want to be here at this time next year with the same kind of debate. It is humiliating, as a matter of fact, and I think something has to be done before this comes up in another year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Again, if it is dealing with the colleges, those matters are dealt with through the Civil Service Commission. My understanding is that a couple of years ago civil servants were all included in the Canada Pension Plan—or a year ago—there are a number here. Does anybody know?

Mr. L. M. Johnston (Assistant Deputy Minister, College Affairs and Manpower Training Division): Mr. Chairman, the matter to which Mrs. Campbell was referring was included along with a number of other recommendations put forward to Management Board in connection with changes to the pension plan put forward by our ministry. They are at that point now.

Mrs. Campbell: That's an improvement over last year.

Mr. Chairman: Have you completed, Mrs. Campbell?

Mrs. Campbell: I think that's all.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel?

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, could I ask the minister—I know many of his officials but

some of us don't and I am wondering if the minister would just indicate to the committee—it would help Hansard—who we are talking to.

Mr. Chairman: I think maybe the deputy minister will do that on behalf of the minister.

Dr. Parr: Mr. Frank Kidd, who is executive director of common services; next to him Mr. Doug Holder; next to him Mr. Dave Ferguson, Murray Tarleton, Lorne Johnston, who has just been introduced; I don't think I need proceed further along the table. Carole Vaughan, the minister's administrative assistant; Dick Apted; J. C. Yen, university affairs—I am going along the back row now—Ben Wilson, assistant deputy minister, university affairs; the next man is a stranger to us, really, he is with OECA; Mr. Mitch McCarthy from the Science Centre; and Mr. Don McQuat, of archives.

Running along the front from right to left: Mr. Doug McCullough, assistant deputy minister, cultural affairs division, the cultural tsar. I suspect the next two gentlemen we could pass perhaps, although they are from the students—

Hon. Mr. Auld: From the students' federation, you mean?

Mr. Martel: I could tell you an interesting story about Doug McCullough, but I won't.

Mr. Chairman: I adjourn the meeting until after the vote.

The committee recessed at 9:50 o'clock, p.m., for a vote in the House and reconvened at 10:05.

Mr. Chairman: We are on vote 2501.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, I won't tell you my story about Doug McCullough—not today anyway.

Mr. N. G. Leluk (Humber): Saved again.

Mr. Martel: Nick wants to tell that story.

Mr. Leluk: Nothing to tell.

Mrs. Campbell: What is the quid pro quo?

Mr. Martel: That's one we are not going to record.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Now you are getting into the curriculum, Margaret.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, when we last left off, a vote ago, I was just asking you about monitoring. The reason I ask you about

monitoring, of course, can be found on page 46 of the select committee report, where we comment first regarding the general data basis.

The committee notes that the numbers of faculty covered in the data provided to the committee do not always correspond to the total number of faculty reported to or by other sources, such as the Ministry of Colleges and Universities.

Second, the committee is not in a position to attest to the reliability of the information on citizenship, country of last degree, etc., provided on the faculty by the various universities. While the committee assumes that the universities furnished reasonably reliable information, the committee was not able to satisfy itself as to the reliability of the basic data input.

Third, it will be seen that the relevant data was not supplied to the committee in respect of a number of faculty at a number of the universities. In some cases this reflects the fact that the basic information was not supplied by the university. Indeed, the committee understands that in some cases certain departments in certain universities refused to supply the information or to supply complete information on their staffs. In other cases, this information was not reported to the committee because of so-called "suppression rules" designed to suppress statistically individual cells [it sounds like a troika] where numbers of less than three would have appeared.

Finally, the committee said:

The committee wishes to express its displeasure with certain representatives and administrators of universities in Ontario, particularly in relation to the committee's request for data on university faculty. Their unco-operative approach was perhaps based on the incorrect notion that universities are not accountable to a select committee in respect of matters within its terms of reference and the jurisdiction of the Ontario Legislature.

Mr. Minister, we came up with recommendations 6(a), (b) and (c) with respect to some type of monitoring—I'll just indicate those points—as regards university faculties:

(a) That each university in Ontario establish machinery to assure that very substantially higher percentages of its new faculty appointments are of Canadian citizens, and that a similarly high proportion have obtained most or all of their graduate training at Canadian universities;

(b) That the Minister of Colleges and Universities should review annually the patterns of new faculty appointments to Ontario universities to determine their progress in complying with the committee's recommendation.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I hope they are.

Mr. Martel: I think it's absolutely essential that the minister establish some type of apparatus—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Don't call it apparatus.

Mr. Martel: All right, mechanism, is that better?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That's better.

Mr. Martel: —whereby we could determine who, in fact, is being hired, and whether or not the wishes of the province, if you have more Canadians on the faculties, are, in fact, being met. Certainly we discovered these wishes weren't being met in fields such as anthropology, sociology, and so on. The ministry was not moving to do anything at all.

In fact, some of the universities, despite all the pressures, were going in the opposite direction. And as one tried to get the relevant information from Statistics Canada, it was also provided in such a manner as, again, one couldn't determine what the situation was, particularly in cases of less than three per department.

But when you consider how hard it is to get information from across the province when the number of universities we have are taken into account, it certainly can throw out monitoring the percentage increase towards more Canadians, or vice versa. Without that type of apparatus or mechanism we are in a real bind to find out exactly what's going on regularly to ensure that the wishes are being met. I just think that it's absolutely vital that the ministry move on that. Of course, the minister is being deluged already with opposition from the universities themselves, who feel they shouldn't have to give out that type of information.

I've never been able to understand why someone is ashamed of his citizenship. That apparently is very much the vogue in university circles. The prevailing attitude seems to be, "You shouldn't know," or, "I don't have to declare my citizenship." I'm a Canadian; I'm not ashamed of admitting my citizenship. I've never been able to understand people who try to hide theirs. It seems to me that once we break down that barrier we might be on the way.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think a good deal of information needs to be made available, as I said a while ago, to the ministry, and in particular to the council, so that it can make factual recommendations. We'll have an opportunity, no doubt, to discuss this a little further on second reading in committee in the bill that is now before the House. The purpose is to get the relevant information required to make effective recommendations and decisions and to still protect the personal revelations of individuals. I think that this can be done.

Mr. Martel: Yes, but I could never understand their position, because certainly, as I indicated earlier, I don't think we ever gave the impression we were conducting some type of witch-hunt. Certainly we didn't try to convey that impression. Your deputy minister was with us on a number of those discussions with them. We certainly, I think, gave the impression we weren't interested in hunting down the fugitive, so to speak. We just wanted to know.

How can recommendations be made without all of the necessary data? We couldn't seem to drive that home to them. They just interpreted it as a straight interference with the university community which they weren't going to tolerate. It seems to me to be irresponsible from a number of points of view. We waited for months for information, and we kept getting the most ridiculous answers from MacDonald and his group, that they couldn't put it together. My God, I suspect the information we were requesting most universities, outside of maybe the three major ones, could have provided in two days of work. And it simply took months and months; well, I think 11 months and we finally said: "To heck with it, we'll go to the printers."

If I had had my way, of course, we wouldn't have gone that route, we would have served a Speaker's warrant on them; I was that furious at their approach. If they had had a Speaker's warrant served on them, they would have come and given us the valid information—despite Evans' threats that he was going to go to the Premier (Mr. Davis). That's the type of irresponsible answer we got from Evans of the University of Toronto; he was going to go and get the Premier to make us back off. Well, that was absolutely ludicrous.

But it just shows you that they are a power unto themselves, and they can threaten a committee of the Legislature that they

will go to the Premier in order not to provide us with information.

Mr. Laughren: What do you do about them going over your head like that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Maybe that was the day my door was stuck.

Mr. Martel: The other thing I'm worried about, Mr. Minister, so that we don't find ourselves in a bind—and apparently a bind was created because we didn't have enough graduates when the influx started with people going to universities in the Sixties; we ended up with an insufficient number of graduates. Are we moving in a substantial way to rationalize who is offering certain post-graduate degrees, the types and so on, so that there is no duplication in the province? And are we funding adequately so that we will not be faced in the future with the problem we were faced with in the early Sixties when we just didn't have sufficient graduates to fill the posts which came available?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps, if we can get to vote 2502, which indicates some of the things, like the fellowships and what not, perhaps we could get into that area.

Dr. Parr: Mr. Chairman, pardon me if I mention that, before we get to item 2, the office is called policy and planning co-ordination. It is a co-ordinating function; it is the office which eventually transmits the recommended policies to other levels of government and so on. But university policy recommendations would be dealt within the university affairs division. And so it would perhaps be misunderstanding the fact that not all matters of policy are located specifically in this office. And so, when one comes to the university affairs division, university policy is appropriately dealt with there, I believe.

Mr. Martel: Might I ask where that is?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is the next one.

Mr. Martel: Grants of the university advisory committee—is that the one you are talking about?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am talking about vote 2502.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2502.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Vote 2502. We are at the moment on item 2 of vote 2501.

Mr. Martel: Well, it is so hard to recognize, because it doesn't mention anything there about university affairs.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The university advisory committee is what it used to be called, and the new one will be called the council on university affairs. That's the third item.

Mr. Martel: All right, I'll pass. But I just thought you might want to discuss it all under policy, because this is just policy recommendations. I was trying to elicit from the minister his opinions with respect to this.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is not quite as far out—if I can put it that way—as one time some years ago when I was in Tourism, and one of our colleagues wanted to discuss film censorship, and we had passed the theatres branch. He wanted to bring it in under microfilming and the archives, as I recall, because that was film.

Mr. Martel: One has to be careful around here. It is almost like yesterday's committee meeting, which didn't come off, after having agreement twice in committee that it would go off yesterday. You can understand my suspicions.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Life is full of changes.

Mr. Martel: Exceptions too.

Mr. Laughren: The minister is really benign.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I'm just figuring that it is getting close to 10:30. I wonder if there is anything else on 2 or 3, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: It is up to yourselves. There is only 10 minutes to go.

Mr. B. Newman: I have a few questions I wanted to ask under policy and planning. One concerned studies on the number of Ontario students attending other universities, universities other than in the Province of Ontario, or in other provinces in Canada, or in the United States.

Mr. Martel: That will come under universities.

Mr. Laughren: You're out of order.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Or colleges. Has anybody got that at his fingertips?

Mr. Ferguson: We have no specific contracted project for that. The analysis of that, and all related questions about students, is ongoing, with various sources of data, such as those available through Statistics Canada and those gathered under various other projects, such as, for example, a project done one or two years ago—I can't remember

exactly—by the Council of Ministers of Education, which was a Canada-wide study of many aspects of post-secondary education, including the interprovincial mobility of students and so on.

What I'm saying is that there are various data sources in this area and they are being analysed on a more or less continuous basis. We do not have, at this time, any specific contracted project in that area.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I asked the question because I've been a long time proponent of a two-fee schedule for students attending Ontario universities. In other words, the resident student would pay one fee and the non-resident would pay another fee, just exactly the way our students are discriminated against—or treated, if not discriminated against—in some of the other jurisdictions, primarily American jurisdictions. I see it from a local point of view, where our Windsor students or Essex county students going into some American universities have to pay non-resident tuition charges—and they're very, very substantial—yet a student from those same states comes along and attends a Canadian or an Ontario university and we treat him completely differently from the way that jurisdiction treats our students.

I know there are problems there. It just can't be straight cut and dried in doing this. But had you studies concerning the numbers of Canadians attending American universities, then you could equate a dollar-and-cent point of view and find out whether our students, by attending American universities, are saving us the development of another university in the Province of Ontario, or whether we are dollars ahead by keeping the status quo. But I really think that we should be looking at, just as in oil a two-price structure, so in tuition charges a two-fee type of structure.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I understand that there has been discussion by the council of ministers that we mentioned earlier on two sort of subdivisions, one as to whether there should be mobility within the country—which I think has been agreed to as a good idea—and then the question of so-called foreign students—

Mr. B. Newman: I don't think any of the other provinces charge an additional fee to our students attending their universities.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I stand to be corrected, but I don't know how we would easily get data on how many Canadian students are attending foreign institutions. I think you could get the data on those who have scholar-

ships, because there are a number of scholarships, federal ones I think, which are sort of like Rhodes scholarships, this kind of thing, where they're well known. But to find out how many—

Mr. B. Newman: But Statistics Canada, if I'm not mistaken, have that information.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Pardon?

Mr. B. Newman: If I'm not mistaken, Statistics Canada do have that information, because they've sent out questionnaires to every Canadian attending an American university for—

Hon. Mr. Auld: How would they know which Canadians are attending universities in the States?

Mr. B. Newman: I'll tell you. My daughter, when she was attending there, certainly got a letter from Statistics Canada to provide them with that information. So, if they knew my daughter was attending an American university I would think they knew a lot of other daughters and sons who were attending also. Maybe the figures wouldn't be completely accurate, but at least that would be a start.

Mrs. Campbell: It's on the student loans applications.

Hon. Mr. Auld: This may be. As I say, the Council of Ministers of Education has been, and is, discussing that particular point about foreign students coming here. I'll see what I can find out for you in terms of numbers and pass it along to you, but I'm afraid we don't have the data here.

Mr. B. Newman: Numbers don't concern me as much as having our students treated in exactly the same fashion when they attend an American university as we treat their students attending ours. I know it's complicated, because if that person went to the University of Michigan, or Eastern Michigan University, or Michigan State College, there may be those additional non-resident charges, but if he attended Albion State College or Northern Michigan University, there might not be those charges. So there are problems that way. But I don't see where—

Hon. Mr. Auld: There are great variations, I understand, within states as between the endowed colleges and the state institutions, for instance. It varies from state to state as to how they deal with—

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I can understand that, Mr. Minister, but I don't think it's

really that complicated to resolve. We've got the best brains in Ontario sitting around here, excluding myself.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That's for sure.

Mr. B. Newman: If they can't resolve the problem, who can?

Dr. Parr: There is another complication, Mr. Chairman. If one looks at this at the graduate level, where perhaps there is a substantial movement of students, one finds that although the student in the United States may have to pay a higher fee, his chances of getting a greater amount of remuneration through scholarships, bursaries, teaching assistantships and so on, may be very substantial too. One isn't simply looking at the transfers and the fees; one is looking at the whole complex of aid, which is available to the student as well.

Mr. B. Newman: You notice, though, that our American friends don't look at it the way you are looking at it. They immediately charge our students that extra fee.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I'd like to be looking at the vote that we should be discussing this under, frankly.

Mr. Martel: You think it is in the wrong vote? I told you that earlier.

Mr. B. Newman: You are looking at the complications of it right away.

Dr. Parr: But what I am saying is that the fee is offset by the fact that the student is in a good position to receive more remuneration as well.

Mr. B. Newman: I wouldn't worry about that so much, because there are far more undergraduate students from Canada attending the American universities, I would think, than Americans coming over here. Actually, I think there are enough in the city of Windsor to put up a 1,000-student university, judging by the numbers that are coming—

Dr. Parr: I would doubt that very much, Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: Not Windsor. I mean—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, there are a number of existing universities that could use 1,000 students without any great problem.

Mr. Chairman: I know we are on a pretty wide-ranging discussion here, Mr. Minister, and we are on universities at the present time—

Mr. B. Newman: We are under research, Mr. Chairman. You weren't here when we were talking about this.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are still on item 2.

Mr. Chairman: I recognize that.

Mr. Laughren: Why don't you move we adjourn?

Mr. Chairman: It being 10:30—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Are we finished with policy and planning?

Mr. Chairman: Are you finished? Do you want to continue?

Mr. Martel: Just sit tight.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, Elie, really.

Mr. Chairman: I am sure you would like a change of environment, Elie.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Really, if there is nothing more specifically on policy and planning or common services, it means there are a couple of people—

Mr. Martel: I want to know how you spent \$2.8 million. You'll have to talk about that tomorrow.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I can tell you that.

Mr. Martel: No, it is 10:30 of the clock.

Mr. Chairman: Can we say that item is carried?

Mr. Laughren: We need permission to sit beyond 10:30.

Mr. Martel: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2 is carried?

Item 2 agreed to.

Mr. Martel: See how co-operative we are.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That's the stuff. We're making great progress.

Mr. Chairman: Tomorrow morning at 10, ladies and gentlemen.

Mrs. Campbell: At 10?

Mr. Chairman: Whenever the House sits.

Mr. B. Newman: No, at 11 o'clock, after the question period.

Mr. Chairman: After question period. That's right.

Mr. Martel: Why do we have to wait until after the question period is over?

Mr. Chairman: I'd just as soon get started at 10, but if we have to wait until the question period is over, we will do that.

The committee adjourned at 10:30 o'clock, p.m.

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Standing Social
Development Committee

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Monday, June 3, 1974

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1974

The committee met at 3:30 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

(continued)

On vote 2501:

Mr. Chairman: Item 3.

Mrs. M. Campbell (St. George): Common services.

Mr. Chairman: Common services.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): What do you mean by common services? It has got to be a broad field.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Colleges and Universities): Common services includes the executive director, who runs the common services. And included are administrative services, information, audit, personnel, statistical services, institutional accounting and architectural services and the ministry library.

Mrs. Campbell: Could I ask what does statistical services cover?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Frank, do you want to go into that?

Mr. F. J. Kidd (Executive Director, Common Services Division): Statistical services covers the gathering of statistics for the ministry as a whole; statistics on enrolment in the universities and colleges; statistics on the various cultural activities of the ministry. It also includes the running of the joint computer systems, for example, with Statistics Canada, and other systems such as that for the gathering of information.

Mrs. Campbell: Does it cover any information with reference to staff at the universities? The faculty?

Mr. Kidd: Not specifically. We have information on staff at the universities, but not the information which the select committee was seeking. We don't have it in that detail.

Mrs. Campbell: How do you initiate the inquiries for statistical services?

Mr. Kidd: For statistics to the universities? In our organization we ask the university affairs division to approach the institutions asking them for the information to be flowed into statistical services branch, where it is analysed, collated and disseminated.

Mrs. Campbell: Is the fact then that you don't have it because you've never asked for it? Notwithstanding that the select committee did, for example.

Mr. Kidd: This is in regard to the information they were requesting? I am not aware that we have asked for it in such detail before.

Mrs. Campbell: And of course you haven't asked about the status of women at the universities as a statistical part of the survey?

Mr. Kidd: We have overall figures, but nothing detailed. I think the study we are going to do will generate some statistics as part of that study and, therefore, will be part of the bank of statistics collected in the statistics branch.

Mrs. Campbell: How would you propose to be able to get the information from the universities? In the light of the amendment.

Hon. Mr. Auld: In the bill that is now before the House we have provision for that.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes, I know that and I have a letter in from the council of the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations. They have a great many reservations. I must say that I expressed the fact that I'd like to ensure that individual privacy was protected. But from what the hon. member for Sudbury (Mr. Germa) has said, I would be concerned that this would be used as a further reinforcement to preclude select committees or members of the Legislature, or the ministry, for getting any of the information they want.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Which would? The new bill?

Mrs. Campbell: If we did not approve the amendment as suggested. The faculty association wants four specifics to protect them; and I have had to advise them that in the

circumstances I am very concerned about personal privacy, I think we all are. If their requests were acceded to as at the moment, it would seem to me that there would be no way the ministry could get the information.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I don't think really this is the place to debate the bill.

Mrs. Campbell: No, but you referred to it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But I have met with OCUFA—and gone over the points they raised, some of which are more important to them than others. I think it's fair to say that their main concern is personal information, and we have no interest in individual files and that sort of thing, and I have explained this. It may be that there will be some amendment to that section 4(a) as it is now drafted to make that perfectly clear, but we take the position that we have to have the information.

I might say that the Ontario Statistics Act is now being reviewed and there are going to be some amendments to that. I think with the approach we are proposing—we need the information when we are dealing with estimates like this which is public money—we will be in a position to have the kind of information we will require to have through the Act. It will overcome, perhaps, gaps which now exist, because it is difficult, I am informed.

Statistics Canada has a good deal of information but it takes a long time to gather it. For instance, in the next vote I have the figures for the member for Windsor-Walkerville on the number of US students in Canada and the number of Canadians in the US for 1971-1972. I have the figures for Canadians in the US for 1972-1973 but we haven't got them for US students in Canada yet because Statistics Canada hasn't got them; at least, I assume it hasn't because when it has them it gives them to us.

In dealing with these sums of money, I think it's important that we have up to date information.

Mrs. Campbell: All I am concerned about is that if you have statistical services and if you have the information or the opportunity to collect the information under the amendment, how are you going to get it in the light of what appears to be the attitude of the presidents? Won't you have to do it almost on an individual basis in order to get the information at all?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I haven't—

Mrs. Campbell: If they remain recalcitrant.

Hon. Mr. Auld:—had any discussions directly with the university presidents' council as yet. The staff will have discussions with their directors and I don't anticipate any particular problems once their immediate concerns about individual files are allayed.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, Mr. Chairman. On vote 2501, item 3, common services. The minister mentioned before that this dealt with the enrolment in colleges and universities. I understand that Niagara College has made application for approval of the construction of new facilities.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think we should deal with that in the third vote, the colleges vote. We gather the data, as Frank Kidd mentioned but as far as the detail about programmes and construction programmes and that sort of thing are concerned, the money for it is in the colleges and manpower vote.

Mr. Haggerty: The money might be in there for it but the question is have you given approval for any expansion of the existing facilities at the present time? I understand the old one is—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am not aware of that moratorium being altered for any of the colleges at the moment, other than in relatively minor ways, and I haven't got the figures in this vote to give you.

Mr. Haggerty: There have been—

Hon. Mr. Auld: But I can give you the—

Mr. Haggerty:—some colleges apply because they couldn't build, I guess, or put up any additional buildings and I wondered if it continued this year or not? You are up \$1 million here so we should have some answer on whether you have approved of their application.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It's up \$1 million.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Over 100 per cent increase in this particular vote.

Mr. Haggerty: Over 100 per cent increase in this particular vote.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think you weren't here on Thursday when we sort of explained some of the wide variations. You won't see that specific change in the total.

Mr. Haggerty: The only reason I am here today, Mr. Chairman, is to keep a quorum here. I should be sitting in the House.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I realize that, but there is a number of variations in the individual votes because of the reorganization. When the estimates for last year were put together the reorganization of the ministry wasn't completed so you will find quite a change, for instance, in the first item in the next vote.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: All of that increase, except about 10 per cent, is because of things taken out of other votes and consolidated in that vote.

Mr. Haggerty: The reason I raised the point about Niagara College—

Hon. Mr. Auld: There isn't any money in this vote for capital construction of colleges.

Mr. Haggerty: No, but your policy decision is perhaps made in this particular vote?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Haggerty: The decision-making must be here.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I think that the statistical data for enrolments and so on would come from the people who are paid under this vote. The enrolment data is collected in that area. We should discuss the question of capital construction under the later votes where money is included. This particular vote only refers to the ongoing costs of the centralized administrative unit.

Mr. Haggerty: I understand enrolment is up rather high in Niagara College and the question is whether or not you are going to allow any further expansion. Whether there are sufficient funds or not, I don't know.

I think the minister is well aware of the closing and phasing out of the Pelham Secondary School which is only about four miles from Niagara College and I was just wondering, perhaps as a saving to the taxpayers, that you maybe go in and buy that building; it's for sale now and it's a good building. It could still provide the educational facilities for that community.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I'm aware of some of the problems and progress at Niagara because I was over there two weeks ago and spent a little time with the—

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, I saw your picture in the paper. It was a very good picture.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It must have been worthwhile.

In fact, they were talking to me about their capital programme and I indicated that we were reviewing these things. But as far as I know—and I haven't got all the colleges people around me in the estimates—there is nothing in this vote; there is nothing significant.

Mr. Haggerty: I was looking for some policy in this vote, but apparently it is not here. All I'm suggesting to the minister is that perhaps maybe consideration should be given by your ministry that even going in and renting that existing high school could provide the facilities the college is looking for on an interim basis.

Hon. Mr. Auld: A number of them are operating in that way at the moment. In fact, I was in Sudbury a week ago at one of the campuses and they're operating presently—and operating surprisingly well, I must say—in a rented facility which was a convent school.

Mr. Haggerty: All I'm suggesting to the minister is that there is an educational facility there now, it will be phased out in this school year and it could be greatly adaptable to your programme. I suggest it would be quite a saving—maybe a couple of million dollars—if you went in even to rent this existing facility. Would you look into it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I will indeed.

Mr. Haggerty: Before the next vote comes up—on either the colleges or universities?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think that would be rather difficult.

Mr. Haggerty: I'm sure you have sufficient staff here that can do a little bit of witch-hunting and come up with the answers that I'm looking for.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Technically you shouldn't have asked it until we got to that vote.

Mr. Haggerty: I've given you enough warning now; I'll get back to it in the vote later on. That's all I had.

Mrs. Campbell: By the time you get to that vote you will have the answers.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deacon.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Mr. Chairman, I was wondering if the minister can give us a list of the non-statutory grants.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Didn't you get one?

Mr. Deacon: I'm sorry, I wasn't in here when you handed them out.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Somebody asked—

Mrs. Campbell: I can't object to the first three grants. They are parts of chairs.

Mr. Deacon: Is there any special reason for these grants to the overseas universities in that list?

Hon. Mr. Auld: They are parts of chairs in Canadiana.

Mr. Deacon: They've been going for a long while; has there been any change in those over the years?

Mr. Kidd: No, there has been no change since 1967. It was established as part of the centenary celebrations at that time.

Mr. Deacon: Not a very significant contribution to a chair, is it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, an arm or a leg maybe.

Mr. Kidd: No, in fact the University of Edinburgh actually offered a course in Canadian history for the first time as a result of these collections they were able to accumulate from the grants made.

Mrs. Campbell: I wish that we could get a course in Canadian history.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You are hearing this from an ex-Scot.

Mrs. Campbell: Maybe we can borrow their material.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is already having its effect.

Mrs. Campbell: In Scotland.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, here.

Mr. Kidd: Is there any further discussion on this?

Mr. Deacon: On the Frontier College, for example, what has been the progress on that operation in recent years? Has it continued to expand or has it been cutting back?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I met with some of the board and the president two or three weeks ago and I gather that there has been sort of a gradual increase in their activities, but it has been a very slow and steady one and that's what they propose for the future.

Mr. Deacon: I understood they had no difficulty getting people to volunteer to go

out to these posts, is that correct? And the difficulty is in shortage of funds. Is this not a good way to increase our—

Hon. Mr. Auld: The deputy minister informs me that we doubled their grant this year from last.

Mr. Deacon: I am glad to see it. It seems to me to be a very sensible way of attracting mature students back into our colleges at a later time. We are certainly making available to them, in parts of the country where it is most appreciated, an opportunity for greater education.

Hon. Mr. Auld: There is no question about it. I was very impressed with what they have been doing.

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): Aren't you worried that they are going to make your colleges unnecessary?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not really.

Mr. Laughren: Not really?

Mr. Deacon: But \$24,000 seems to be a very small amount for what I consider a pretty important approach to education in the more remote parts of the province.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps, although they have other sources of funds as well, of course.

Mr. Deacon: Yes, I realize that, but I think their work could be greatly expanded if we would put a little more in there.

Dr. J. G. Parr (Deputy Minister): The amounts, I am told, increased from \$7,000 to \$12,500 to \$24,000.

Mr. Deacon: You are going in the right direction, and I hope you keep on moving because I think they can do a lot. Different students who I have talked to who are graduates of the universities here are interested in working in that part of the province, and it benefits both those students—the graduates who get out there—as well as the people they are working with. Have you an assessment or monitoring of the achievement in that field, to see the actual cost-benefit of money spent in that way, compared to the money spent in our conditional types of colleges?

Dr. Parr: It is very difficult to make cost-benefit analyses in any of the post-secondary areas.

Mr. Deacon: I realize that, but I hope we are going to do a little more of that.

Dr. Parr: We have no doubt that the money is very well spent, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Deacon: It strikes me as very important.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 3 carry?

Vote 2501 agreed to.

On vote 2502:

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, there were several questions raised in the opening remarks. If the committee agrees I could deal with those at the beginning.

Mr. Chairman: Deal with them now. I am sure the committee will want you to deal with them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: On the question of why the Ryerson fee for nurses was higher than the community college fees for nurses' training, I am informed that the \$350 fee at Ryerson is the standard fee that they charge for all of their programmes. The \$250 fee to the nurses who were transferred to Ryerson continues for those who were in the programme when they transferred. New people, if they decide to take the course at Ryerson rather than at a CAATs college or, for instance, at one of the universities where the fees are even higher, will pay the standard Ryerson fee.

Mr. B. Newman: Once these young ladies who are enrolled in the programme graduate, the new crop coming in will then be paying the standard fee?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: The new crop starts paying their new fee in September.

Dr. Parr: Any new students will pay the Ryerson fee.

Mrs. Campbell: Which is \$650.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, \$350; \$250 at the CAATs colleges.

Mrs. Campbell: What I am getting is \$650. Is that changed?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, that must be the university fees which run around \$600—

Mrs. Campbell: I take it it's at Ryerson.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —or \$575. They vary from university to university.

The Canada-US student flow; I think the member for Windsor-Walkerville asked this.

In 1971-1972 there were 10,396 Canadian students in the United States and there were 6,517 US students in Canada. I haven't got the figures, because we haven't got them yet from—

Mr. B. Newman: Which year was that, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The 1971-1972 academic year.

Mr. B. Newman: Thank you.

Hon. Mr. Auld: In 1972-1973 there was a slight drop. There were 9,679 Canadian students in US institutions.

Floyd, I think you asked about the University of Toronto Act. I am informed that a committee of the university's governing council has been reviewing the Act as is specified in it. They will give their submission to us this summer and we will probably be bringing forward the amendments in the fall.

Mr. Laughren: If I may follow that up, how do you propose to deal with that Act when the time comes? Do you propose to have it come before the social development committee? Or do you propose to handle it through amendments to the University of Toronto Act and bring it into the Legislature? How do you propose to do that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It will really depend on what's in the report, I guess. The Act specifies that they submit a report to the Lieutenant Governor in Council and the Legislature. It really depends on what's in the report; if there are legislative changes to be made, then I assume that we would bring in amendments to the Act and deal with it in the normal process in the House and in committee.

Mr. Laughren: So there's a good chance that representation will be able to be made to a standing committee of the Legislature when those changes are being debated, assuming that there are changes. Right?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Was it you, Bernie, or was it Elie Martel, who referred to the procedure for approval of post-graduate courses? Somebody did; I don't have the name in front of me. There was an embargo placed on all new graduate programmes in March, 1971, and a number of—

Mr. B. Newman: Graduate or post-graduate?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Post-graduate.

Dr. Parr: Excuse me. The two terms, regrettably, are used interchangeably. Post-graduate and graduate as one, then undergraduate as the other.

Hon. Mr. Auld: An advisory committee on academic planning was set up under the Council of Ontario Universities. They were responsible for undertaking detailed assessments of those disciplines under embargo, then making recommendations as to whether the embargo should be lifted and, if so, in what degree.

The following disciplines, I am told, have gone through this process, with the subsequent lifting of the embargo: library science, economics, chemistry and geography. There are about 10 more on which it is expected that studies will be completed and recommendations made this year.

As far as new undergraduate programmes are concerned, if these are not approved, then the university can run them but they are not counted as far as provincial support is concerned. Consequently, I'm told, there have been very few. That situation still exists: If the universities want to start new courses and get provincial support for them, they have to submit them through the council to the ministry.

Mr. B. Newman: There was no embargo on the part of the ministry on Master of Education courses back about two years ago, was there?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am told it was embargoed.

Mr. B. Newman: There was an embargo? It's strange, Mr. Minister, that you would put an embargo on a thing like that, when on May 17 of this year a bus left the city of Windsor, going to the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.; on board were 49 proud people from Windsor and the surrounding area who were going to receive their master's degree in education.

Dr. Parr: Even so, Mr. Chairman, although there was an embargo, Windsor was running its programme on an interim basis, for the Master of Education.

Mr. B. Newman: For the University of Virginia?

Dr. Parr: No, for the University of Windsor. Because of the representations which were made, indicating the very thing of which you are speaking was taking place, Windsor was given permission, on an interim basis until the decision was reached.

Mr. B. Newman: But this is after this programme had been set up in the community. Isn't it kind of strange that it would not innovate when the demand was in the community?

Dr. Parr: There was a programme in the community too.

Mr. B. Newman: The programme was in the community, but we had to bring in an American university to set up a programme. The university of—

Dr. Parr: No, sir. There was a programme of the University of Windsor at the University of Windsor—

Mr. B. Newman: At that time?

Dr. Parr: —for the Master of Education. Yes, sir.

Mr. B. Newman: At the same time?

Dr. Parr: Yes, sir.

Mr. B. Newman: That's news to me. I stand corrected, but it certainly is news to me. It would be strange that our students wouldn't be attending one at the University of Windsor rather than taking one from the University of Virginia.

Hon. Mr. Auld: There shouldn't be that much difference in the weather.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, they didn't go to Virginia for the programme. The programme was conducted in one of the elementary schools in the community and they had local faculty teaching the programme, but the credit was coming from the University of Virginia rather than having a Canadian university credit, the Windsor university credit.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I can't explain that.

Mr. B. Newman: I would have thought that the ministry would sort of be a little more alert to that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I gather that we were and that the University of Windsor was running the same course.

Mr. Deacon: Has the minister any comments on the findings of the select committee that a serious deficiency in our graduate programmes is probably the cause for a lot of our foreign appointments to senior department positions and, therefore, there needs to be an acceleration of—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, I think if you go back some years ago when the expansion

of universities took place, from five to 15, the great problem was to find, in the jargon, PhD's, and this was when a great many professors from other places were attracted here. And at the same time, or shortly thereafter, the ministry started the graduate—

Dr. Parr: Ontario graduate fellowship.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —yes, the Ontario graduate fellowship programme, to try and deal with that exact situation. It appears now that that has been successful, in that there are a great many Canadian graduates. On the other hand—

Mr. Deacon: Who can't get jobs because the ones in the decision-making positions are now the foreign ones, who naturally go to the old school tie.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps, and perhaps there are people who came and the universities wanted to keep them rather than replacing them.

Mr. Deacon: Yes, but on new appointments, in some locations, as you know, they've had a lot of complaints because of the tendency to appoint faculty from outside Canada because graduates from our own schools are not sufficiently well qualified to meet the standards these universities seem to have set for themselves. In fact, there has been a lot of doubt as to whether those standards that they are setting are valid.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That certainly has been said, and it has also been said, from what I have been learning in the last couple of months, that prior to that time there was a similar argument that if the members of the selection committee were from Queen's they seemed to always recommend Queen's people, or Varsity, or whatever it was.

Mrs. Campbell: That might be better than having foreign people.

Mr. Deacon: That is a natural tendency, it's a human tendency to go to those we have known and worked with in the past. But because of that being prevalent in connection with people who are not familiar with the Canadian scene, who haven't been trained in Canada, and that being a very serious deficiency in our Canadian universities if we don't have that corrected, I'm wondering if you still see a need to accelerate the graduate programmes—or improve them actually in their calibre rather than accelerate them—to be sure we do get the highest possible standing in areas where the universities say we are deficient and are appointing people from outside Canada.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Presently there is a financial incentive, of course, in operating graduate programmes, because of the weighting factor of the basic income unit. That certainly seems to be having its effect.

Mr. Deacon: Is it having its effect in the areas where we are most deficient? As you can see, there are certain departments where the situation was more serious and certain universities where it is more serious than at others.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps Dr. Parr can answer that.

Dr. Parr: Mr. Chairman, first of all, I think that I would have to respond to the suggestion that the calibre of the graduate schools is in some way second rate, because I don't think it is.

Mr. Deacon: This is what was indicated to us by witnesses before the committee, that we weren't getting as—

Dr. Parr: I was just venturing to disagree with that.

Mr. Deacon: Good.

Dr. Parr: Secondly, with respect to the numbers, the problem is—

Mr. Deacon: You say you venture to disagree with that. Do you have any supporting evidence that, say, our own graduates are able to get good appointments outside Canada even though they can't get them within Canada?

Dr. Parr: I believe that they stack up with graduates from other well-reputed schools. One sees the kind of work they have done which is incorporated in the learned journals and publications, and so forth, and one gets the general impression that it is good. Indeed, the whole process of ACAP—which the minister just referred to—is making sure that those aspects which are strong are strengthened and those aspects which perhaps are more fruitful and started at the time when there was a general tendency to begin graduate programmes for fear that there would not be enough graduate students, that these are being backed off a bit.

With respect to the numbers, I suspect that there are going to be certain areas in which we find that there are a large number of people with high degrees available for teaching positions. This doesn't solve the problem in specific areas.

I was speaking at lunchtime to a dean in forestry who said that I might use this figure,

since I suspected the subject might come up. In response to an advertisement for faculty in forestry there were 57 applicants. Out of these, 50 were from the US and I think the remaining seven or fewer were from Canada. If one is able to put this right by hiring Canadian staff—and that looks rather difficult under the circumstances—by the time the imbalance is put right, the need for those people is less than it is today.

Mr. Deacon: One of the points that concerns me as a member of the committee in listening to people's reasons for selecting, is this matter you mentioned of publication. Surely, we're going to have to improve our methods of evaluating the ability of faculty members other than by how many papers they publish.

Is there any progress to report on the programme that the present minister's predecessor, the present Treasurer (Mr. White), indicated he wanted to see initiated in the colleges and universities? He wanted a programme of actually evaluating those who have been through the system for a year, two years, three years, four years—what they felt were the weaknesses and strengths of their university of their college experience. Has anything been done to develop a system of evaluating the type of programme being offered by the universities by such a method, by going to those graduates? The previous minister did indicate he was going to try to work out such a system.

Dr. Parr: I think, Mr. Chairman, it's quite common now in the universities. I would be unable to say it was happening in every one, but in the conversations that I have had with academics I think it's fairly widespread that the evaluation of professors is much more completely and thoroughly done than it used to be—including an assessment of teaching abilities—and not only relying on the number of paper published for their research abilities. I think there is still more to be done, but there has been a considerable improvement on it the last three or four years.

Mr. Deacon: Wouldn't the ministry consider that it has a prime responsibility in doing this? After all, it is responsible and accountable to the people for the public moneys that are put in into each university. We want these universities to be autonomous to the greatest degree possible, but that doesn't mean that they shouldn't be accountable for the results they are able to achieve.

This could be done if the ministry were to initiate its own programme of evaluation in publishing comparative results, or some such evaluation programme. I know initially there would be a lot of static that the programme was unfair or wasn't doing a good job. But, surely, in three or four years of such an attempt a system would be developed that would at least be a good guide.

Right now, we all seem to be going in the dark. We're saying: "They're doing their own job. They're on their own." I don't think they're doing as good a job as if there were a better basis of evaluating the results.

For one reason or another, one university becomes popular in a certain field and it becomes the place to go. But I'm sure that there are others which are offering good programmes that are being missed.

I know it would be unpopular to begin with, but it might be a very helpful guide to the universities in the long run if an objective analysis were undertaken by the ministry on an annual basis of graduates and post-graduates to determine how they felt about the courses that they had studied.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It would seem to me that the institutions themselves are extremely interested in producing in the jargon, the best product.

Mr. Deacon: Very much so, but their analysis is going to be much more subjective than yours.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, I would say we are talking of a field that is totally subjective.

Mr. Deacon: I would think it could be more than subjective, Mr. Minister, with all due respect. There are a lot of studies made nowadays, where we're having to get into this field of taking evaluations in fields where normal, free enterprise competition doesn't make the choice. I think we have got to develop more expertise in this.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I really haven't had an opportunity to get into this, but it certainly is a matter of interest. What the feasibility is I really don't know.

Mr. Deacon: Well, in the whole programme the government said it was undertaking some time ago of cost-benefit analysis of various government programmes, surely in the field of education and your particular area even more so because you are dealing with autonomous institutions it is important that you do develop a technology in this regard—an expertise in evaluation—and get it out in the open. Get

it out in the open. Start to publish results of studies.

You might be criticized.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Although I don't know, it seems to me that there are two factors. One is the calibre of the graduate and the other is whether the graduates have graduated into a field that is overcrowded or undercrowded and how they progress with the knowledge they have gained.

Mr. Deacon: No. You're assuming that—

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you get 20 great anthropologists, and there are only positions in teaching or some other field for seven of them—

Mr. Deacon: You are assuming that the programme you provide is the end in itself of education. I would assume that your best courses are those that really prepare people to continue to educate themselves as they are getting on in their own chosen field of work. There would be differences and variations between different individuals, but I would think the graduates who are going to be giving the greatest credit to their university experience and giving it the highest evaluation would be those who found it trained their minds to deal with problems they experienced later on in life, whatever the chosen field they happen to get into. I would think it is important that we start to attempt at least a programme of evaluation so that we have some guidelines to go on.

Hon. Mr. Auld: When would you ask the graduate for his evaluation? The year after he graduated?

Mr. Deacon: I think there are different stages of doing it. It maybe one year or five years; question him in each grouping. If you are doing a random sampling of graduates, and you get it up to say five or 10 years—five years would probably be the maximum you need, they would be pretty well aware of the benefit of their educational experience by that time. Maybe they would have a different feeling about it after one year than after five years.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I will undertake to look into this a little further.

Mr. Deacon: Good. Maybe you can get a little further with what Mr. White started four years ago.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I thought I would write you a letter first and get your reactions of some years ago.

Mr. Deacon: I may be a little too far out of it.

Mr. E. J. Bounsall (Windsor West): Mr. Minister, when you mentioned a short while ago about the moratorium having been lifted on four of the disciplines, I think due to the advisory committee on academic planning having looked at them, surely you didn't mean that there was unchannelled expansion being allowed in those graduate programmes? You meant simply that the ACAP study had been done of those disciplines? For example, they haven't allowed a PhD programme in chemistry at Brock, Trent, Laurentian or Lakehead, have they?

Dr. Parr: That is correct.

Mr. B. A. Wilson (Assistant Deputy Minister, University Affairs Division): When a discipline has been studied by the ACAP process then a recommendation comes through assessing the potential of the individual university in making certain recommendations where course work should be continued. I can't tell you the precise content of each one of the disciplines that has been reviewed, but it is not a blanket release. There is a strong advice and any new programme does have to go through a fairly stiff evaluation at that time before it is approved.

Mr. Bounsall: So it just means that following the ACAP study, the decisions are made based on the study's findings?

Mr. Wilson: Right.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. G. E. Smith (Simcoe East): Mr. Chairman, through you to the minister, I'd like to ask a question under vote 2502 pertaining to the grants to universities. I notice that the actual is up about 10 per cent. I assume part of this is due to the increased enrolment projected for this year, and I suppose part of it is increased grants structure too. I may have missed that in your opening remark.

The point I'm trying to get at is—perhaps I should ask another question relative to it. How many of our universities in Ontario are enjoying maximum enrolment, full utilization of existing facilities? There are some?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You will get varying answers if you ask the universities as to whether they are overcrowded, or crowded, or have capacity, or are under capacity—as most of the newer ones are. It would depend to a degree on physical facilities and equipment. There are problems in some of the uni-

versities which have large enrolments in certain courses—medicine is a good example, and that relates to nursing as well—and the colleges where you have to have enough clinical facilities nearby as part of the training. I can't give you a detailed answer, Gord. I don't know whether—

Mr. G. E. Smith: I don't need a detailed one. But one point I'm trying to come to—

Hon. Mr. Auld: For instance, at Trent, because I was there a few weeks ago, they have an enrolment this year of just under 2,000 and they are only arts. They feel that they could handle about 4,000 with very little more in the way of basic plant. They feel that they are short of certain facilities, recreational facilities is one of them. That will vary from institution to institution.

Mr. G. E. Smith: One of the points I will make is the fact that there are many extension courses being offered by various universities as a convenience to students to get credits to obtain their BAs at the local level. I can think of one instance in the city of Orillia where Waterloo Lutheran, now known as Wilfrid Laurier, for years has been offering extension courses that have been well received. They are filling a very valid need.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Are you speaking of extension or of credit courses? But extended in the sense that Waterloo operates the course in Orillia?

Mr. G. E. Smith: Yes. The point I'm trying to make is that we have another university competing—offering the same subjects offered through Georgian College; advertising in the local papers and so on. If we are supporting these programmes, I'm just wondering why they should be so competitive.

Hon. Mr. Auld: There are some differences. The course might have the same name, but in the community college it's probably a diploma course with different content, or not as much content as the university credit course which would lead to a degree.

Mr. G. E. Smith: I think in this particular case Georgian College is offering extension courses of the same type through the U of T. That they are basically the same subjects concerns me, where they become so competitive at the local level vying for the student.

Dr. Parr: I think one thing to understand—which doesn't answer your question, but to allay any misinterpretations—as far as gov-

ernment expenditure is concerned it doesn't make any difference—

Mr. G. E. Smith: I see, all right.

Dr. Parr:—since the costs are per student. If two institutions find that they can both run the course, then perhaps a little competition isn't too bad.

Mr. G. E. Smith: So it is not costing us any more as a government, to do it this way?

Dr. Parr: No.

Mr. Bounsall: Mr. Minister, could I follow up on the competitiveness of courses? Is Mr. Smith there? I gather that the ministry, in terms of courses being offered in Ontario by American institutions—provided they aren't putting up buildings and so on—really has a very neutral policy. They can come in, advertise, offer the course; and if they get students, fine. If your ministry is asked, I gather that you neither put the stamp of approval or disapproval on them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I don't know that we have any jurisdiction at all over them, even if they wanted to put up a building. As far as a stamp of approval is concerned, if a person graduates from Yale, and Yale has a sub-unit in Toronto, it is still a Yale degree. I suppose that the student decides which institution he wants to go to for a variety of reasons. But there is nothing in the statute books. If it were a trade school they would have to register, but they can still operate.

Mr. Bounsall: I just wanted to make sure on that point. There is nothing I know which prevents them from coming in and advertising their course. They usually rent facilities in which they offer them. Is there nothing in the books that would prevent them from building, say, a Yale campus anywhere in Ontario—a Yale annex in Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There is nothing to prevent anybody from building a university. But if they want to award degrees in this country, they have to have legislation from the province.

Mr. B. Newman: But they can award degrees to the student by having the student go over to the US and get it there.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is why the busload went to—

Mr. B. Newman: That is just what the University of Virginia was doing in the city of Windsor.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But you can't award a degree in Ontario without legislative authority to do so.

Mr. Bounsall: I understand that. The thing that—

Hon. Mr. Auld: You might recall some years ago that there was a bill in the Legislature to recognize the Royal Military College as a degree-granting institution.

Mr. Bounsall: The thing that interests me is not so much whether we allow them or do not allow them. But surely if they can come to Ontario and make a successful venture in offering a course, this says something about the courses which are being offered by our Ontario universities.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Not necessarily.

Mr. Bounsall: Doesn't that interest the ministry?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It might be that the facilities were available in Ontario, but not in that immediate geographic area. Somebody decided there was a market in Windsor, even though the facilities were there. The people who took that course in Windsor could probably have taken it in one of the other universities, but it was more convenient for them to stay in Windsor. I don't know, I am just guessing.

Mr. B. Newman: It is strange on that Windsor course; it was also conducted in Kitchener. You would have thought that one or other of the universities would have taken hand on that course, and would have completely run the course rather than have an American university come in and give degrees. They don't give degrees, but allow the student to study. And then he goes over to Charlottesville in Virginia and gets his degree. And it is recognized.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am afraid I can't answer the question. It sounds strange to me too but obviously there must have been a reason. I can only assume it was convenience. I don't know anything about the course content.

Mr. Bounsall: I find nothing wrong, Mr. Minister, that another institution from outside the country can come in and offer courses, if there is a demand for it and students go into it. I would think though, that what this should be saying to the ministry, and to the universities, is that there is a demand for courses which they can offer, but don't.

This might well interest both the ministry and the universities.

The one programme that I am most recently familiar with is a business administration programme being offered in Windsor, and elsewhere I gather, by—I'm not sure of the university or from what state. But the attraction is that they will give the course on the weekends, which is much more attractive to people wanting that course than nights during the week. Therefore they have been able to get an enrolment of students for the weekend programmes. They find it much better than during the week, whereas a Canadian university, at least not in the Windsor area, does not have that option open.

Dr. Parr: It has the opportunity open if it wishes to take it.

Mr. Bounsall: Oh yes, sure it is there. But what I am saying is, surely this does interest the ministry and should be interesting to universities in the area. Perhaps the ministry should interest the universities in these things if they aren't doing them. There is a need that the already established universities aren't meeting in their own areas, which allows the other institutions to come in and do it. This could very easily be pointed out.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I suppose a lot would depend on the size of your own faculty and how busy they are on Monday to Friday in the daytime and evening. It may be that some other institution has faculty and is trying to find something for them to do on the weekends. It seems kind of far out, though, but—

Dr. Parr: I think, too, Mr. Chairman, it's only fair to point out that the range of availability of courses offered by the universities in extension has increased pretty substantially over the past few years. It would be wrong to suggest that they haven't been answering the need. It is, of course, true that there are still further needs to be answered.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. G. E. Smith: I would like to ask a question under the programme administration accounts.

Mr. Chairman: I wonder if at this particular point we can return to item 1 and deal with these matters item by item. I know that discussion has been wide-ranging on item 2.

Mr. G. E. Smith: I want to talk about item 1.

Mr. Chairman: We'll deal with programme administration. We will come back to item 2.

Mr. G. E. Smith: The question I would like to ask is this. There is quite an increase in this amount over the budget estimate for last year. Could you indicate why this has taken place?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, Mr. Wilson could.

Mr. Wilson: Mr. Chairman, I might say that the university affairs division was formed during the course of last year. At the time the estimates came in, there was a phase-in anticipated for the division. There is no increase in complement this year, but the fact that people were transferred to the division during the course of the year has caused this year to be a total year. We've annualized this year, whereas previously it was a build-up period being shown.

Mr. G. E. Smith: You might comment then on the item services, \$160,300. What would that cover?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That includes the advisory committee on academic planning, the combined registration of Ontario students—that's the centre in Guelph, and fees for staff seconded from universities for special projects.

Mr. G. E. Smith: Okay.

Mr. Chairman: Do you wish to participate on this point?

Mr. Laughren: Yes, on this particular sub-vote, one thing that has been bothering me is what the policy of the ministry is going to be in terms of TV programming. For example, there are courses now being offered over the commercial networks by some universities. There already has arisen a dispute concerning jurisdiction.

What happens if a faculty member from a university offers a programme in, for example, fine arts over TV at probably some ungodly hour of the day in order to get the time on TV, and the television station has an opportunity to sell that taped programme to another television station in an area that really is under the jurisdiction of another university? That's one part of the problem, the jurisdictional one.

And secondly, what about the costs and revenues of those programmes? I think the ministry is going to have to lay down guidelines in order to protect both the universities and the professors who are doing the programmes, who are doing research, who are doing the preparation of the tapes and are doing a follow-up of the tapes, and also sending out people—perhaps themselves, per-

haps junior colleagues—into the field to supervise the programmes. Some of these programmes are not just on TV, but are VTR—videotaped—and are put into a high school, for example, and it is a form of an extension programme of a university into a smaller community.

I think if you are going to avert conflict, that the ministry had better start laying guidelines pretty quickly.

Hon. Mr. Auld: First of all, you're talking about programmes officially sponsored by a university, rather than somebody, in effect, moonlighting—

Mr. Laughren: No, credit courses.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Of course there are no jurisdictions as such for universities. A university, in theory, can offer a course any place. However we would not support it unless it was an approved programme. We mentioned before how new educational programmes and courses are approved. What happens about copyright, I'm not competent to say. Whether the station acquires the programme or the tape and then sells it to somebody else, I would say, is a matter between the sponsoring institutions and—

Mr. Laughren: But I am assuming that that has been worked out between the television station and the university and the professor, okay? But there are still two problems—one is the problem of jurisdictional dispute, which I understand you to say you would not touch. If a professor from university A makes arrangements with a television station under the jurisdiction of university B, then that's okay?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You mean in the area of university B?

Mr. Laughren: Yes. In the area of university B. You would say that university B could not interfere with the programme being offered on that television station. This may not have come up yet, but I can assure you it's going to.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The deputy minister informs me that sometimes universities have their own laid-down jurisdictions, if you want to put it that way. But we, as I say, have not laid down any jurisdictions.

Mr. Laughren: Could I ask you then, would you agree that there should be no jurisdictional rulings by the individual universities, in order to keep a programme off a certain television station?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would want to know a good deal more about it. We're talking about—

Mr. Laughren: No. I'm not asking you—

Hon. Mr. Auld: —we're talking about the so called open-academy concept.

Mr. Laughren: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are talking about the so-called open-academy concept of using many other—

Mr. Laughren: Yes, but we're talking about something that's happening right now. And that is that commercial stations are using videotapes, and videotapes are going out into the various communities, whether or not there is a TV station involved or not. They can go out on the VTR machines. What I'm asking you to be most specific on is to state whether or not you think a university should be able to keep out of its area a tape that's been done by another university and its professor.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I say, I was not aware that this was occurring, and consequently I wouldn't want to make any comment until I find out a little more about it. But perhaps Dr. Parr might have some comment.

Dr. Parr: The only thing I could add, Mr. Chairman, is that I think this has perhaps been going on with respect to correspondence courses, where the course goes outside the jurisdiction. We have never been called upon to referee a dispute.

Mr. Laughren: You haven't been?

Dr. Parr: No.

Mr. Laughren: I'm encouraged, because I hope that the ministry will not get in the position of protecting a certain university. I mean, if that university isn't offering the programme, then surely a television station should be able to make available to that community a programme from some other university.

I would hope that guidelines will be drawn up, because I think you're going to need them. There's an enormous amount of money at stake here, because students pay for those programmes. I can give you an example of a course in which several hundred students are involved, and if you take the tuition fee of over \$100 a course, you can see you are getting into a lot of money. Who gets that money? It accrues as part of BIU grants to that individual university and you end up

with a dispute between the professor and the university as to the professor's portion of that BIU grant which goes to the university.

I think you are going to have to look into that very carefully. It is just on the horizon, perhaps, but it's happening already.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The first thing you have to have is information as to what is going on in terms of the finances.

Mr. Laughren: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Which, perhaps, we will be able to get.

Mr. Laughren: Okay. I assume, Mr. Chairman, the rest of the questions the minister has not answered he will answer under section 2.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: I wonder if you could tell me what funds out of services are allocated to the advisory committee on academic planning?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Seventy-five thousand dollars.

Mrs. Campbell: What are the criteria for that committee?

Dr. Parr: About three years ago the committee was set up in response to the general feeling expressed by the ministry that graduate programmes had to be reviewed since they tended to be proliferating. It was set up—

Mrs. Campbell: That's the one we've been talking about?

Dr. Parr: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: That's what I wanted to make clear.

Dr. Parr: The committee itself is an offshoot of the Council of Ontario Universities. The ministry agreed during its initial stages that it would pay 50 per cent of the expenses, most of which relate to the hiring of consultants from constituencies other than Ontario, in order that they may come in impartially to evaluate the programmes put before the committee.

Mrs. Campbell: Fine. What sort of people sit on that committee; do you know that? I don't need the individuals.

Dr. Parr: The committee itself is of academics.

Mrs. Campbell: All academics? Presidents or—

Dr. Parr: Offhand I don't think so. I'm not sure, Mrs. Campbell; I will find out.

Mrs. Campbell: Thank you. Is it under this vote or is it under a later vote since we've been discussing the TV programme? Is it under here that we could get into the matter of the open academy or do we get into the matter of the open academy or do we do that at a later vote?

Mr. Chairman: I wonder if I could butt in just very briefly? Hansard tell me they are having difficulty hearing the members and wonder if they'd maybe speak a little closer to the microphones.

Mrs. Campbell: All right. I don't want to get into it on this vote if it isn't relevant to this vote.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The open academy concept would relate to colleges, universities, libraries, museums, Ontario Educational—

Dr. Parr: The specific vote for CJRT-FM this year comes in vote 2505.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes, I was aware of that. I just wondered on general principles; I suppose we discuss the general principle under that vote?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That might be the best time to do it because there are a lot of things which may be part of the idea.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 1 carry? Carried.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2.

Mr. Laughren: Are you going to give the minister a chance to respond to what I raised? I'm sure he's got volumes there.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Which item was that?

Mr. Laughren: On the university grants.

Mr. Chairman: I think Mrs. Campbell had another question.

Mrs. Campbell: If the minister has an opening remark I'm happy to listen to that first.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The only thing I can say about university grants is, I suppose, what I said in my opening remarks about the overall increase and how it's made up. Specifically—

Mr. Laughren: I'm concerned that you are not following through on your promise which you made after the two of us—

Hon. Mr. Auld: On bilingual—

Mr. Laughren: On the whole question of our leadoffs; you said, "I'll respond to you when we get to the individual votes."

Hon. Mr. Auld: I did a moment ago with the items related to this vote, which were in the leadoff remarks, as far as I could get through them.

Mr. Laughren: I see. All right, I will—

Mrs. Campbell: In this particular case, in the light of what was said by Mr. Martel the other day, with reference to the select committee and the intransigence of the university presidents in refusing or neglecting to give information to that committee, I have asked what portion of moneys going to each of the universities supporting the council of presidents, goes to that council. I would like to hear from the minister what his attitude is to the situation outlined on the matter of the failure to respond to the requests of the select committee. I think that is of tremendous importance when one comes to grants of this kind, particularly any public funding that goes to the council of presidents.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Wilson.

Mr. Wilson: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the actual operation of the COU, they get about 0.14 per cent of the basic operating income of the university turned over for their operating purposes. For the last five years, this has amounted to about \$700,000 a year they have had to operate on. All of the 15 provincially-chartered universities are full members and then there are three associate members—Ryerson, the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, and the Royal Military College—who pay a more or less nominal \$5,000 per year for membership. Beyond that, the ministry doesn't have any control over the operations of COU. In fact, this is just information we happened to get, not officially, but we know it to be fact.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, I think \$700,000 is a pretty considerable sum to be paying to a group which has expressed its contempt for a select committee, as in fact it did. I was not on the select committee, but I would like a follow-through from the minister as to his position vis-à-vis that group and why the public should be funding a group that refuses to give information to a select committee of this Legislature.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I suppose the best thing I can say, Mr. Chairman, is that was taken

into consideration when the bill now in the House was drafted.

Mrs. Campbell: That may be, but now the select committee has reported without the benefit of this information, it would seem to me that about the only way you can make some people understand that they are not above the law is to cut off the public funding of their operation.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The thing, Mr. Chairman, is this. The council of universities obtain their funds from their membership. We do not take that into consideration when we set the basic income unit. There are a number of things which universities can do with the basic income unit other than simply pay for light, heat, professors, and that sort of thing. It is up to them as to how they spend their funds, as long as they do it—well, honestly, I suppose.

Mrs. Campbell: But, Mr. Chairman, surely if we are aware of the fact that \$700,000 out of this vote goes to a group which is apparently incapable of recognizing the importance of a select committee of the Legislature of the Province of Ontario, we ought to do something to ensure that they do not continue to operate on any public funding.

Now, if you delete \$700,000, I am sure that doesn't tell the universities that this is not to go to this particular group. As you have said, they could use it; they could take it still and cut some place else. I am asking for some guidance as to how we get through to these people in a very real way that we will not have the Legislature treated with this kind of contempt.

Hon. Mr. Auld: One of the members of the select committee the other day mentioned that the committee had debated about getting the Speaker's warrant—

Mrs. Campbell: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —which was its prerogative to do. Apparently the committee decided that they didn't want to go that far.

Mrs. Campbell: Having done that, then I am still asking you for your opinion as to this type of action. You have answered by saying that the amendment to the bill—I presume you mean 4(b)—is your answer, but that in turn you are going to make or may make amendments to that section which will obviously water it down. How do we proceed to ensure that no public funding will go to such a group?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Frankly, Mr. Chairman, I really don't know how, unless the province were to control the bookkeeping of the institutions after the basic income unit operating grant is made. I don't see how we can say how much of it goes to which part of a very large variety of expenses. I do say, though, that I believe that we will get information when we have had that bill passed.

Mrs. Campbell: The ministry will get it, but the Legislature may or may not get it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Any information which we have which is not about an individual is available to the Legislature.

Mrs. Campbell: May I just complete? Has the ministry expressed to this group other than by the amendments, its concern for this lack of cooperation—which is putting it mildly I take it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps Dr. Parr would respond to that. My information is that over the years we have been getting more information but we have not been getting it in the form we wanted nor have we had the information we wanted from all the institutions.

Dr. Parr: That is correct. I think that the kinds of views that Mrs. Campbell has been expressing, Mr. Chairman, are now known to the university community as being more than bureaucratic requests from the ministry. I am sure they will respond when they learn how general this concern has been.

Mrs. Campbell: May I say I will have to go back to my expressed position on this amendment. I have a great deal of sympathy with the concerns of those who wish to see an amendment to the amendment. But until such time as I can see that this particular group is going to accede to the requests which have been made of it by the select committee in some form or other—I don't know whether they can still make a representation to a committee which has reported—I would be very reluctant to see the minister giving consideration to these concerns. Any consideration of this kind could simply enshrine the position of these people who feel that they are above the Legislature—if that is what they feel. As I say, it is premised on the remarks of a member of a select committee on which I didn't serve.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I hope I made it clear, Mr. Chairman, that—well, two things—that I didn't think that this was the place to debate the bill—

Mrs. Campbell: No.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —but the only amendments that I have considered as a result of representations that I have had were those that might make it perfectly clear—if, in fact, that was necessary. But we would not be trying to get personal files.

Mr. Bounsall: Mr. Chairman, on the same point. I attended that session of the select committee when that point came up. The reason that was given by the universities at that time for not providing that citizenship information was because they thought that abrogated the Ontario Human Rights Code. It was made very clear in that meeting that the Ontario Human Rights Code said nationality, not citizenship, and that therefore to ask for citizenship was a perfectly legitimate thing to do. That meeting was last summer—almost a year ago was it?—and the universities still have not complied with that select committee request.

My question is: Did you as the minister, or your ministry, ever send out a letter to the universities, or through Dean MacDonald, saying that that select committee request was a reasonable one and that information should be provided by the universities? That information request doesn't abrogate the Human Rights Code.

Dr. Parr: To the best of my knowledge, Mr. Chairman, a letter, in those terms, was not sent out. Our own ministry staff were talking, of course, to the people at the Council of Ontario Universities. It was our understanding that the compromise situation that was reached, wherein individual names were not given, but the distribution within departments was—unless it was a one or two-man department; which would be the same as giving individual information—but this was, if not totally satisfactory, at least fairly satisfactory to the committee at that time. But that was the extent of our discussion with COU.

Mr. Bounsall: Well, at the very day of that select committee that point came up—if you indicated one or two people in small departments, that might indicate the person. The committee made it clear that that didn't matter, they wanted those names. So, the compromise situation you said you arrived at was the exact position of the universities at that meeting. So, it wasn't a compromise; it was an adoption of the university's stand at that meeting, which did not satisfy the select committee.

Dr. Parr: It was a compromise compared—and I'm not defending it or attacking it—it was a compromise compared, Mr. Chairman, to their earlier stand where the breakout into departments and so on was being discussed, I believe; if memory serves me right.

Mr. Bounsall: What is your ministry's official position now? You've communicated verbally, I gather, with the universities involved. I gather information that the select committee wants is still not forthcoming or complete. We're still at an impasse. What is the ministry's position now with respect to seeing that that information is obtained?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that we haven't taken any steps other than the amendment which is now before the House.

Mr. Bounsall: You're really taking a rather unusual position. A select committee of this House requests a certain thing, which falls under your jurisdiction to give some aid to, and you've done nothing as of yet.

Hon. Mr. Auld: My understanding is that until such time as we have an amendment to the Act we don't have the authority to force them. But the select committee does, by a Speaker's warrant.

Mr. Bounsall: Surely a letter pointing out what could be done if they refuse to comply—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that the select committee actually has not asked us to do anything further.

Mr. Bounsall: Surely you have an interest in the matter, though? Surely when you see this happening to a select committee you could take some initiative and send out a letter yourself to your own universities, saying that you understand or you have heard via the grapevine or anyway you want, that this is the situation that exists and urging the institutions to, in fact, co-operate; and indicating what could happen if they don't. There could be a Speaker's warrant, or there could be an amendment to the legislation. But, neither of these steps you would want to take if, in fact, the universities would co-operate. That, surely, would have elicited the information.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think the information end is broader than that, though. I think that we want to be sure that we have the variety of information that we require and that the Committee on University Affairs or its successor would require in studying and making recommendations to the minister on

funding and programmes and a whole variety of things that are involved.

Mr. Bounsall: Do I take your answer in this part to say that you haven't been able to decide on what sort of questions you want to include on a general survey of all universities, so that that information and its continuation would be useful in the future? Is that what I understand you to be saying?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Are you talking about citizenship of staff?

Mr. Bounsall: Citizenship of staff. Have you been unable to devise a questionnaire?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I don't know that we have as yet produced a form that we would be sending around to universities, but certainly that information is information that I would like to see.

Mr. Bounsall: It surely can't take very long to produce a form that would elicit that response. I mean, what's the hold-up?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The select committee is, I assume, satisfied with the present situation. Otherwise I would hear from the select committee. As I say, to my knowledge there has been no request to me or to the staff of the ministry to pursue this.

Mr. Bounsall: Mr. Chairman, what I am saying is that you shouldn't really have waited to receive a formal request from the select committee to give them a hand in this regard. Surely it would have been very appropriate for you to have informed the select committee that you were sending out this letter on their behalf? That could have been done.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I say, I think our response is pretty clear in the bill, and that would give us authority, if and when it is passed, to write and get that information. At the present time we don't have that authority. We may have some moral suasion, but I am informed that we don't have that authority.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, does the minister agree that the wording of the select committee, insofar as the lack of co-operation is concerned, constituted an indictment of this particular group? And surely at that point, if he agrees, would it not have been advisable to at least underline what the select committee had to say, to have pointed out to them that this cannot be tolerated because this is the government, this is the Legislature, asking for this information?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would say that that must be pretty clear to the universities, without anybody having to remind them of it.

Mrs. Campbell: Yet nothing has been done, and the faculty association has come in asking for further concessions by way of amendment to 4(b). When you are discussing their request with the faculty association, would it not at least be appropriate to point out that, the information not having been forthcoming, we have to be able to get it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Don't assume that the interests of the faculty association and the presidents are always the same, because I don't think they are.

Mrs. Campbell: I am not. I am not. What is of concern to me is, I agree that we should protect the privacy of individuals without question, but if there is no other way to get the information that a select committee wanted, if, in fact, they waited 11 months to get it and reported without it because they couldn't get it, then surely we must ensure that there is no loophole left by which they can escape giving the information that is wanted and needed?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, all I can repeat is that as of this moment in time the select committee has more authority to obtain the information than we have.

Mrs. Campbell: What is the status of that select committee now, having reported? Is it functus or does it continue?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I understand it is still active.

Mrs. Campbell: It is still meeting?

Mr. Bounsall: They would have to, in this area, add a postscript. They would have to publish a postscript to this particular report which they have made.

They have completed that section. They are on to other areas of economic and cultural nationalism, but they are in the unfortunate situation of having to—

Mrs. Campbell: But I am speaking about this area.

Mr. Bounsall: —report it in a very thin document as a postscript to the one already made, which is an awkward way, I would think, of reporting.

Mrs. Campbell: I was aware that it was still sitting on other aspects but once having reported on this, I wondered if it were

functus. If it isn't, then perhaps it can get back with a bit of clout.

Personally, I don't want to see public funds allocated to this sort of operation if they are not prepared to co-operate. Yet I certainly don't want to cut off universities, even though I made the motion, I believe last year, that we shouldn't fund organizations which are discriminatory in nature and, of course, that is another aspect of the problem. You haven't been able to get the information. Those who are concerned about sexual discrimination in universities haven't been able to get all of the information they need, although I understand some of the universities have now set up an anomalous fund for this purpose. It's still ongoing and we are still getting studies when there have been task forces and other forces studying the situation. It looks to me very much like a stalling tactic both by the ministry, with respect, and the universities.

I would like to know if they can't take some of the simple steps which have to be taken to correct discriminatory practices which after all, I presume, are still against the law of this province.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you are talking about equal rights, I—that is different.

Mrs. Campbell: Equal pay is pretty elementary except in colleges and universities.

Hon. Mr. Auld: From what I know of it there are some very real problems, though, when you start dealing with—it's a subjective field if somebody hides behind competence or experience and that sort of thing.

Mrs. Campbell: It may well be subjective. Up to now I agreed that it has been largely and it's been subjective against one particular group in the community.

Mr. Laughren: Part of your class system.

Mrs. Campbell: Pardon?

Mr. Laughren: Part of your class system. I am sure they wouldn't want to remove that from Ontario society.

Mrs. Campbell: Class system? Do we have a class system, really, basically?

Mr. J. Duszta (Parkdale): Oh, Margaret!

Mrs. Campbell: I think we certainly do at universities and colleges, without question; that I will grant you. Could I know how soon there is to be a report on this matter? How soon will Dr. Lewis be reporting?

Dr. Parr: I understand, Mr. Chairman, that report will be available in six months. Of course, several universities have already submitted their reports to the university communities.

Mrs. Campbell: Precisely.

Dr. Parr: In fact, that has happened since the last estimates debates when I don't think any had.

Mrs. Campbell: That is true.

Dr. Parr: There hasn't been a total stalling.

Mrs. Campbell: Not a total stall, I appreciate that.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 2 carry?

Mr. Laughren: You encourage one to doze off and then you pull a trick like that.

I'd like to have a serious response from the minister on the whole question of bilingualism. At Laurentian University in Sudbury we have one of the two designated bilingual universities in the Province of Ontario, but in fact—and very few people who know the situation at Laurentian would deny this—we do not have a truly bilingual institution.

For the last three years there has been the same \$540,000 bilingual grant allocated to Laurentian. As a matter of fact, last year the ministry attempted to reduce the grant to \$347,000 but when the university kicked up its heels it raised it back to \$540,000. Surely, over a three-year period, with the escalating costs we've had in the last three years, to leave that grant at \$540,000 is an insult to the franco-Ontarians in the Sudbury basin.

As you may know, Mr. Minister, there are now five French-speaking secondary schools in the Sudbury area. The graduates of those schools are going to be making demands on Laurentian University and Laurentian University will not be able to meet those demands. Students are going to continue to go to Ottawa University which is the only truly bilingual university in the province. I say to you, for heaven's sake start providing the grants required, if you are at all serious about making Laurentian bilingual, because now you are hurting both the French programmes and the English programmes because of splitting up those very restricted resources made available to the university. To say that you have had dialogue with Laurentian is ridiculous. Back in 1967 they started making representations to the CUA about the need for increased grants. Very recently, I believe last year, they indicated to you that they needed

approximately 50 per cent more of a grant than they were presently receiving if they were going to be able to offer French-speaking programmes of equal quality.

I would urge you to reconsider the way you allocate the bilingual grants. I am very much aware how much the grant per student is at Laurentian versus Ottawa, but that really is a specious argument because of the numbers of students at Laurentian. It is just not fair to say, when they attract the students we will provide the funds, because there are very high administrative costs in operating the programmes. You are going to have to fund the actual cost of the programmes if you are going to make Laurentian a truly bilingual university.

You should be aware as well that 35 to 40 per cent of the population in the Sudbury basin is francophone. You surely must take this into consideration. I think in the past you have got off lucky because of the inadequate French-language education in the Sudbury basin at the primary and secondary level. But as French becomes more and more popular in the primary level and in the secondary level, there are going to be significantly increased demands for education in the post-secondary level in the French language. It is also going to happen in the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology at Cambrian but I will pursue that further at that particular vote.

Surely you are going to listen to the recommendations in the Symons report, the recommendations in the Committee on Post-Secondary Education report and the recommendations of Laurentian University itself and its senate committee whereby in its five-year plan they indicated they were going to make much more serious commitment to the teaching of programmes in the French language. I would very much appreciate your response.

Hon. Mr. Auld: First of all, I will just give you the figure that the bilingual grant to Laurentian for BIU was \$1,671 in 1973 compared to \$184 at Ottawa. As recently as two weeks ago Wednesday, I spent the greater part of the day with the chairman and the president and some members of the staff discussing the problem. As recently as last Friday, a senior member of our staff was there going through the figures and so on to see if there was a flaw.

Mr. Laughren: Again, because they did that before.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you recall, the Committee on University Affairs recommended the same bilingual grant to Laurentian this

year as it did last. Laurentian said that this was not adequate and we undertook to do a study which is continuing. As I mentioned last Thursday—and this was agreed to when I was at Sudbury a couple of weeks ago—while part of their problem was the bilingual grant, there were other problems too in terms of being an emerging institution and also a northern institution. We undertook to look at the whole picture which is what we are presently doing.

I would also say, as far as bilingual support is concerned, the grants to Laurentian are 10 times what the federal grants are in terms of our formula and theirs. Our formula is far more flexible to deal with the kind of problem that Laurentian has.

Mr. Laughren: But you would agree surely that it is inadequate to properly fund sufficiently to make Laurentian a truly bilingual university?

Hon. Mr. Auld: The question is, is it being adequately funded? It's a question of the chicken and the egg as you mentioned—if you don't have the programmes, you don't attract the students. That is probably part of it, but there may be other factors involved as well.

Mr. Laughren: I would like to know what they are because I think if you are going to anticipate the demand, the programmes have to be there. If it wasn't for those five secondary schools that teach in French, I think maybe you could get away with that argument. But you have got to be there and ready with those programmes when those students are graduating.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Let us take universities as a whole and new universities particularly in a community with a range of programmes. The students decide to go, for argument's sake, to the Great Lakes—

Mr. Laughren: To what?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Instead of staying in Thunder Bay, they would prefer to go to Toronto, Hamilton or London. It could be that that has some effect as far as Laurentian is concerned versus Ottawa.

Mr. Laughren: That is true of all universities, no matter what language is spoken, but I am particularly talking about the French problem. Where do we stand on it now? You say you have got a committee of the ministry looking into it or is just the ministry general discussing it with Laurentian?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Our specialist in grants and BIU and so on was with us when we were talking. As a matter of fact, I spent the morning talking in general terms with the senior people there, and he and Mr. Wilson spent the afternoon with the financial people and the academic people, getting into the nuts and bolts. Then he returned last Friday for a further meeting; I must say that I haven't seen the report and I haven't talked to him since then. So we are looking at the situation to see whether we can justify additional funds.

Mr. Laughren: When do you hope to have some kind of decision?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I hope to have a recommendation, if one is necessary, probably in about two weeks.

Mr. Laughren: And to whom does that recommendation go?

Hon. Mr. Auld: If it requires additional funds, it will have to go to Management Board.

Mr. Laughren: I see. So the recommendation will come from your ministry?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. Laughren: I see. On another topic, should those of us in northern Ontario dispense with any hope we had of a medical school, in view of your statements a week or so ago?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would think, looking at the health resources fund and the clinical facilities and so on that are required, in my understanding of it, that it is not likely in the next year or two anyway. But I think from my limited knowledge of that end of the university spectrum, it is far from economic. I think I gave some figures in the House the other day as to the costs, both capital and operating, of a separate institution starting from scratch, as opposed to expansion of existing schools. It was something like \$85 million for establishment and about a third of that per annum for operation. From that, it doesn't seem too likely.

Mr. Laughren: We do appreciate the tremendous cost involved—

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is not just the university cost. It is the hospital costs—the whole thing.

Mr. Laughren: I understand that. What bothers those of us from the near north or the mid-north is that we have a sense that unless some ministries of government start

making some pretty courageous decisions about reversing present trends in the Province of Ontario, then it can only get worse.

If I could just give you one example—if the chairman will not rule me out of order for a moment at least. When they talk about the development of Metro Centre here, they talk about the present population around the “golden horseshoe” as being 30 per cent of the provincial total and in the year 2000, they anticipate it will be 66 per cent. It seems to me that the government is going to have to make a very courageous decision that will make the Spadina Expressway decision look like child's play. Either that continues or some very very tough decisions have to be made about the allocation of resources elsewhere in the province—I don't mean in Barrie or in Pickering, but much further away than that—in order to truly decentralize the growth of the province so it is less lopsided than it is now.

I know that the Minister of Colleges and Universities can't sit before this committee and say that he will make that commitment on behalf of the government of the Province of Ontario. But I think that it is going to have to take those kinds of decisions from individual ministries along the way so that it will become possible. If you make a decision like that, that in itself causes a certain amount of growth wherever that institution would be located, whether it was an institution of this ministry or some other ministry of the government.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, that is basically a statement rather than a question now.

Mr. Laughren: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Auld: In reply, I would say simply that the policy of the government has been pretty well indicated in this budget and in past budgets. In the ministry I was in previously, basic services were pretty important to continued growth. As I recall, the greater Sudbury water and sewage scheme of some \$45 million had about \$33 million or \$34 million of provincial grant money in it—the highest ratio I guess, of any place in the province in terms of dollars. I wouldn't want to get into a debate as to whether sewers and water at the moment is more important for parts of Sudbury than a medical school, but I would say it is a pretty basic service that is required.

Mr. Laughren: What I am talking about really, is changing the direction in which the province is moving. It is funny how you can

say one thing and then do another. The Ministry of Revenue has regional officers throughout the province—and do you know what they are doing? They are moving the regional officers into Toronto. They will still be called regional officers, and on paper I am sure you could draw a beautiful chart that looks like those regional officers are scattered throughout the province; but there they are, all in Toronto, being responsible for certain parts of the province.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I guess we are both well away from these estimates now.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, I appreciate that fact.

One thing I did want to ask you about is the programme at Trent University. I think you have had correspondence dealing with the audio library programme. I gathered from the correspondence that they were looking for something more of a commitment from the ministry. If it is going to continue, this idea of having it being funded now until the end of December doesn't give them much flexibility in terms of long-range planning, developing brochures and talking to students in the secondary system on how they will be able to help them in the future, and so forth. I wonder if you have made a decision as to whether or not you are prepared them on an on going basis?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I haven't, Mr. Chairman, as yet. I would say this though, that at Trent, as in every institution, it is a matter of priorities. And Trent has indicated to me previously, on sort of a more university-wide basis, that there was some capital facilities that they felt they needed very much. I would like to pursue with them just what their priorities are before we get into another long-term, ongoing programme.

Mr. Laughren: Surely here we are talking about something that won't interfere with the capital grants.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are talking about, in terms of budget, about \$35,000 a year. I think the request was for some \$35,000, and we indicated that we could find in our permanent estimates about \$10,000 for the balance of the calendar year. As I recall, also, when that programme first started it was to be a pilot project and was to be self-supporting after a period of one or two or three years—and this was the year it was supposed to be self-supporting.

Mr. Laughren: But then they detected a need in other areas that they can expand into, such as the secondary system.

Hon. Mr. Auld: My understanding is that the agreement reached between the ministry and the university was that this was a new programme within certain parameters and that it would be self-supporting. The commitment from the ministry was that their support would cease at the end of the last fiscal year. I don't know the details of what was originally proposed and, like a lot of things, it may have a tendency to grow. But if we are talking about dollars, which is what we are talking about, it is sort of academic whether it's capital or whether it's current. Because we are looking at a global picture, as far as the funds that the Legislature votes for this ministry are concerned.

Mr. Laughren: But we would hope that you are open-minded about continuing funding in that programme.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is a great thing to hope.

Mr. Laughren: I'm not too sure that statement gives me any hope.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If everybody had no hope it would be a disastrous world.

Mr. Laughren: Oh, my God!

I'd like to switch back to something we mentioned earlier and that was the University of Toronto Act. The reason that I feel a certain concern about that Act is that I've read the University of Toronto debates that went on before I arrived here in 1971. I guess that debate was in the spring and summer of 1970 or 1971, I'm not sure.

It was very evident that during that debate there was a shift in opinion or in feeling by the then minister, John White, whereby he felt at the beginning that there was really nothing wrong with the students and the faculty having parity on the governing council. Then it became clear that somebody was influencing him the other way, and I don't think it was the performance of the faculty during those debates, because from what I read of them, the faculty did not present the kind of reasoned debate that the students did. So I don't know who convinced John White that the students should not have parity.

Keeping in mind at the present time there are, I believe, 48 members of the governing council, and that a subcommittee of the governing council has recommended that it go up to 65, and that instead of the present ratio of faculty to students, that it go to 14 each, I'd be interested in knowing what the minister's opinion of parity is.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I guess I'll take a leaf from John White in reverse and say until I know a little more about it I won't give an opinion, so I don't have to change it later.

Mr. Laughren: I think my mind is turning to glue. But surely we are not talking about parity in terms of 50 per cent of the governing council. I'm really talking about parity between the students and the faculty on a very large body.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Seriously, though, Mr. Chairman, before I would make any comments I'd rather like to see what the council is going to recommend to me. Or what they do recommend to me.

Mr. Laughren: If I could read you something from "Varsity", which is a completely unbiased paper from the University of Toronto, in which they outline the members of the governing council who are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. This reads like Ontario's blue book of who's who. You have Col. C. M. Harding, who is chairman and chief executive officer of Harding Carpets, a director of Union Gas, Confederation Life Insurance, and Toronto-Dominion Bank. You have Mr. William B. Harris, who is president of Harris and Partners Securities Ltd., Harris and Partners Ltd., a director of the Mercantile and General Reinsurance Co., and Storrington Investment Co. You have Sydney Hermant, president of Imperial Optical Co., director of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, North American Life Assurance Co., People's Jewellers Ltd. W. J. D. Lewis, president of Canadian operations, Prudential Insurance Co. of America, president of Prudential Growth Fund Canada Ltd., director of Crown Trust Co. Harry J. Riva barrister and solicitor and secretary of Astral Communications Ltd. C. Mackenzie King—now there's a name for you—director of Canada Glazed Papers Ltd. and Harvey Woods Ltd. Hon. Daniel Lang, senator, councillor, director of P. L. Robertson Manufacturing Co. and Proctor Ltd. W. O. Twaits—now there's a name that has a real twang to it for me—chairman of Imperial Oil Ltd., vice-president and director of the Royal Bank of Canada, and a member of many other associations and councils. Gordon Fisher, vice-president and managing director of Southam Press Ltd., and director of many companies. Keith Hendrick, vice-president of sales, Noranda Mines Ltd., director of the Brunswick Mining and Smelting Corp., and many other companies. John A. Tory, a partner of a law firm—

Hon. Mr. Auld: That's to balance Mackenzie King.

Mr. Laughren: Yes. I am telling you this whole series of appointments by the Lieutenant Governor in Council needs balancing. That is a fine cross-section of Ontario society as seen by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, namely the Tory cabinet of Ontario. I understand that; something has to keep the big blue machine oiled. What better than this group?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I doubt if it would ever be—

Mr. Laughren: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I doubt that it would ever be Sen. Lang.

Mr. Laughren: No, it might not be him. But when you get those kinds of appointments by the Lieutenant Governor in Council you don't need to worry about parity with the students. You should not be concerned about that at all and neither should the governing council if this is what they regard as community appointments by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

I believe now there are 50 members on the councils, not 48, and the Ontario government appoints 16 out of that 50. It almost automatically takes them from the leadership of the business community. I believe there is one trade unionist on it from the United Steelworkers of America, Mr. Lynne Williams. Unless this ministry is serious about making the educational system such that those people who have most at stake in it also have a great deal to say in how that education is delivered, you are going to end up with a system of education in Ontario even more elitist than it is now.

I would urge you, when the recommendations come to you this summer from the governing council, to give serious consideration about parity with students. It has become a symbolic thing, I believe, more than a matter of being able to control policy on the governing council because with that many people, whether the students have eight, 10 or 14 isn't going to alter significantly the direction of the governing council. I believe you should keep in mind who is on the governing council now and not automatically take the recommendation of the governing council which comes to your desk.

Surely if we are going to move at all in university administration it should be in the direction of giving students and faculty more of a say in the operation of the university.

Particularly students, who have as much at stake as anyone else in the university community. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Is there further discussion on item 2? Mr. Bounsall?

Mr. Bounsall: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Has anything been done yet by the ministry in an active way to encourage the formation of a uniform graduate students admission policy by discipline?

Hon. Mr. Auld: By which?

Mr. Bounsall: By discipline. I asked you a question some weeks ago when a problem arose in the psychology department at the University of Windsor re admission of graduate students. It appeared at that time that within the four divisions of psychology at Windsor there was a lack of any uniform admission policy. One division admitted on one standard and one division admitted on another standard even if the departmental council as a whole had to approve them. That stamp by the departmental council didn't occur this year but in the past it has been an automatic stamp. The list is produced and approved and away you go, even though in other years that same diversity of admission standards must have occurred even within that one department.

Yet when you look at the number of psychology departments in the province, or any discipline for that matter, admitting graduate students with very few exceptions—some four or five disciplines—there has been no uniform graduate student admissions policy worked out by discipline.

The first one to get it worked out—and I was sort of part of it and came in at the tailend of it — was the chemistry one, and it has worked rather well. It was not easy to formulate per se. It took two or three years of fairly active working on it. But a policy was formulated such that all Ontario universities admitting graduate students in chemistry have the same standard, know what that standard is and apply it. The department heads had a meeting once a year in October in which they simply tabled the list of graduate students admitted and what the reasons for admissions were, if the odd student happened to fall below the agreed-upon requirements. The requirements for all of them were stated in quite some depth.

Hon. Mr. Auld: May I just interrupt? Are you saying that you had a meeting within the university in October?

Mr. Bounsall: The department heads of chemistry of all universities—and it is now into two or three other disciplines—meet yearly, tabling the list of graduate students they have admitted so that all can see that they are living up to the agreed-upon common admission standard. This has worked well.

The psychology situation at Windsor points out the fact that it not only doesn't occur across Ontario in psychology, but there is no uniform admissions policy at and within divisions of psychology at an individual university. If psychology or any discipline had what some disciplines have, a uniform, agreed-upon, graduate admissions policy by discipline, then problems such as arose at Windsor this spring would not have arisen. Or if they had arisen, then they would have arisen in accord with an agreed-upon, all-Ontario policy.

I think at this point the initiative has to come from the ministry in suggesting that this would be a good thing for all disciplines to embark upon. In the absence of this, there will be disciplines which never will embark upon it, and from time to time, not just in psychology but in some other disciplines, you will have a similar situation as the one that arose at Windsor this spring. Has the ministry taken this into account and is it considering it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: At the present time, there is no active consideration about attempting to set common admission standards in all the universities in the province for all the disciplines. That is basically an internal matter. My understanding is that in the chemistry field, as you have indicated, this was something that the universities themselves agreed to do.

Mr. Bounsall: The departments agreed to do.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The departments agreed. There is nothing to prevent other departments, if they can do it, doing the same thing. But at the present time we have no plans to try to set common admission standards for the graduate students.

Mr. Bounsall: It wasn't a question of the ministry setting them. I want to make that clear. It is a case of the ministry saying to the disciplines, why doesn't psychology have some sort of a policy? I think political science may have it now. Or why doesn't English as a discipline get together through the department heads or through the admissions officers of those departments as other disciplines have done and set a common graduate stu-

dents admission policy, to be policed and regulated by yourself, so that someone entering into an English department, for example and, accepted for graduate admission in Ontario, would have been admitted because of the common standard at any university in Ontario? Then you won't have what is obviously the case now, different standards being applied within the same discipline at different universities in Ontario. Surely this is not a very desirable thing?

The ministry shouldn't say "here is a policy which we would like you to follow," or even go so far as to threaten that "something will happen if you don't," but it should encourage all disciplines to get together and sort out what is going to be their graduate admissions policy.

It has another spinoff as well. It also affects the undergraduate programmes when they start looking at whether or not a student from Brock, for example, with a B-plus average, is equivalent to a student from Trent, and so forth, then you get into an automatic scrutiny of the undergraduate programmes by disciplines. It has that additional spinoff, as well, when you try and set up a graduate policy, let alone a whole policy for foreign students.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would say that there may be some advantages, and I'm sure there would probably be some disadvantages. I would think it might vary from discipline to discipline, too.

Mr. Bounsall: Sure, that's all right. If English, for example, has a policy that would satisfy English—what I'm saying is that there could be completely different policies in the other disciplines.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It satisfies English in every university.

Mr. Bounsall: That's right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: As I say, at the present time we have no plans for doing this, and I don't know that I would want to attempt to impose this on universities, because I think that universities have reached their present high standards because of the lack of the straitjacket in standardization. There are some advantages to this approach.

Mr. Bounsall: It would be a straitjacket if the formula they were to use was imposed upon them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think you mentioned, though, that we might suggest it, and then

suggest what could happen if they didn't do it.

Mr. Bounsall: No, what I said was I'm not suggesting that you even say that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think you said we should police it.

Mr. Bounsall: No. I said they themselves should police it as is done. We'll check Hunsford on that. That's not what I intended to say, but what I'm saying to make it very clear—I'll say it again—is that there should be no intent by the ministry or anybody else to police it except those in the disciplines who, in fact, set the policy up. It's a self-policing thing.

If you sit down and finally reach an agreement on what should be the admissions policy and the standards, then the people who set them are going to meet it. They'll catch hell from their colleagues if they don't. I'm definitely not saying that the ministry should have a hand in the policing of it, or even in setting it up. But you should encourage those disciplines, all of them individually, to arrive at a common policy amongst themselves, to be policed by themselves, which they will do anyway if they decide to set it up. No particular department admitting graduate students is going to adhere to a policy which is agreed upon by themselves and be happy about finding out that the university next door has gone below that agreement, or done something remarkably different than what was agreed upon. They'll let their own colleagues know about their dissatisfaction.

The whole reason for this, as you know, as it blew up at Windsor, was the seeming admission of American students vis-à-vis A-grade students from the University of Windsor, who were turned down, whereas the American students were admitted. Their admission, in this particular case, was based on graduate record examinations, which are American examinations, applied to both American and Canadian students. GREs, particularly in the value-sensitive areas, don't have nearly the force of Canadian examinations in the physical sciences, except where undergraduate programmes in the US differ markedly from the Canadian programmes. The value-sensitive areas were unexpected for the Canadian students because different questions are asked and the undergraduate programmes are different. For the Canadian to do as well as an American in the psychology GRE—and in this particular examination this past year the Canadian students were asked to write at least two

very US-oriented questions, yet the results of that GRE were used to admit Canadian students on a par with American students. It was part of the formula. Yet the Canadian students are at a distinct disadvantage.

What I am saying is, if the disciplines were meeting and agreed upon a common policy, then part of that policy would be what specific weight, if any, an American graduate record examination would have upon the admission of a Canadian student, for example. It has a lot of advantages in getting that attitude sorted out, so you don't have the charges, at least, of discrimination on the basis of an American graduate record examination, discrimination which arose towards the Canadian student.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I was looking at the notes about this. As you say, the original controversy arose because of the United States tests, the GRE, which, it turned out was given, I think, one-third weighting amongst all the factors. When I looked into it, I was informed that that particular test was used because it was the only one available. The cost of establishing one for Canadian students had been looked at by the committee of Canadian universities—a committee on behalf of all universities that looks at common tests and so on—and they had come to the conclusion that there was not the need for the large expenditure of money that would be involved in developing an all-Canadian test—

Mr. Bounsall: I am not arguing that point. I would agree there.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —and also indicated that in their judgement, it was a general knowledge kind of thing, rather than something which you needed to be American to understand. There was no particular bias, one way or the other; as far as any person writing the test was concerned there was no advantage or disadvantage.

Mr. Bounsall: In the value-sensitive areas though, there is a difference. If I can be parochial for a moment and go back to chemistry, the graduate record examinations are available after the fact. After the year's testing has been done, you can get copies of them. And with the graduate record examinations being used in the United States as the main entrance examination for graduate school, after you have looked at a few years of these and see the types of questions routinely asked, you tailor your undergraduate programme in order that your students are

successful in passing those tests. Ontario universities have never done this.

One can look at the tests and actually see that if one was gearing his students to pass the GRE in the undergraduate programme, he would be careful to instruct them in a given area—which is what happens in United States universities. This does not happen in the Ontario universities, which puts the Ontario undergraduate at a disadvantage to the American undergraduate when they write these general graduate record examinations.

If, in Ontario, we wanted to prepare our undergraduate students to do well on the GRE, there would be some restructuring of the undergraduate course material. But Ontario universities have not taken this attitude. They don't do that, and yet you have some disciplines using that test and mixing in some proportion of that test in their decisions on admissions. My point is, that is fine—that may well be fine—provided that you don't have variations, not just from one university to another, but even within departments of a university.

Dr. Parr: Mr. Chairman, apart from the differences of opinion that one might have whether it is a good thing or a bad thing to standardize the admission to the graduate school, which virtually means as you have implied, some standardization of qualifications at the bachelor's level, which might in turn lead to a certain standardization of courses, and indeed to common hiring requirements for all professions across the province—

Mr. Bounsall: No, no. Come on, Jim.

Dr. Parr: It is possible. I think that one aspect of the case that Mr. Bounsall has put is not yet clear to me. He raised the point of the American students being at an advantage because of the nature of the GRE, particularly if the GRE is incorporated by all the departments of philosophy, as it might well be, since most of them use it now. It doesn't seem to solve that particular problem.

Mr. Bounsall: Are you saying then that you have evidence that some disciplines in our Ontario universities are tailoring their undergraduate programmes so that their students are successful at passing GREs?

Dr. Parr: I didn't say that at all, Mr. Chairman. I said that if the argument that Mr. Bounsall used—and I am asking this because I don't understand quite what the implication was—but if the argument is that the GRE led to the easier acceptance of American students at the University of Windsor,

I don't see how that can be used as an argument to standardize the admission requirements within departments of philosophy across the province. Because it may well be that they would all use the GRE—in fact, a number of them do at present—so it seems to me that you have two quite separate problems.

Mr. Bounsall: Yes, there are two quite separate problems, I agree. My bias is is that you don't use the GRE. I can give you the chemistry experience since 1966 in using the standard admission standards, which is that GREs are used only for students whose backgrounds are unknown, not as a general rule. No Canadian student is asked to write a GRE in chemistry. No upper second class from any British type institution, including those in Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand, and so on, are asked to write the GRE, because the backgrounds of those students are known. But for American students and for students of various other countries for whom not a very solid line exists on what a B-plus or an A means from those institutions, this does serve as a guideline from those institutions—knowing full well that in some of those other countries they might be as ill-prepared as Canadians are to write that graduate record examination in terms of undergraduate course emphasis and background. So I am not arguing for the GRE. What I am saying is, the GRE would have to be part of the admission standards which are set up and considered, discipline by discipline; that they are the ones best equipped to make that decision. They are the ones best equipped to make that decision, whether or not and in what weighting, if at all, a GRE score should be used.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Mr. Chairman, I will re-read the Hansard of this debate and see what we might perceive.

Mr. Haggerty: You mean it went right through you?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, no. It takes a little while to look at all the factors that might be involved.

Mr. Chairman: Any further comment on item 2? Carried?

Mr. Bounsall: No, I have a few more points.

There has been concern expressed to me just quite recently, particularly by some university faculty members, regarding the suggestion that Ontario wants to scrutinize the

federal grants in aid of research. I assume you mean the Canada Council grants and the National Research Council grants. This is to see if the research being carried out under those grants is in accord with Ontario's objectives. You can see where the concern comes. It arose at the recent CAUT meeting. I have a couple of questions on it—quite apart from the whole point of whether or not Ontario should be involved in university research grants, which I think it should be.

Just what is Ontario looking for in the scrutiny of the federal grants in aid of research to university faculty and just what are Ontario's objectives?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Perhaps I might ask Dr. Parr to comment or reply.

Dr. Parr: The matter arose originally at the meeting of the Council of Ministers of Education.

Mr. Bounsall: The Council of Ministers of Education?

Dr. Parr: The Council of Ministers of Education of Canada. A paper was prepared which suggested that the nature of research going on in the universities across the country was of concern to the provinces in a number of ways. One is the ongoing costs of course, and the substantial overheads and so on. Consequently, any federal initiatives could not be ignored by the provinces. The points of view taken by the individual provinces varied somewhat across a spectrum from near indifference to wishing to take a very hard line.

I think that the general view of this province, as I understand it, is in line with most of the other provinces, in that if a university is negotiating for a very substantial grant, the kind of negotiated development grant which one reads about of half a million dollars or so, then it would not be inappropriate if provincial representatives were involved in a three-way discussion between the federal government, the provincial government and the university.

With respect to your second question, on the objectives. As you have no doubt read, a provincial science policy is being formulated and I would imagine that research objectives would be attached to that. One does not foresee, however, that this is going to affect the individual relationship of the researcher getting his grant from NRC. On the other hand, one could see that it might well have a bearing on those grants which may be made from federal sources, and

have a very substantial impact on provincial resources through overhead. This is the way it is seen at present.

Mr. Bounsall: I don't think that was clear to the faculty members who have approached me on it. You're really talking, therefore, about a scrutiny in terms of any new initiatives in a large research-type area which the federal government may take, with respect to an individual university. It's really in that area mainly.

Dr. Parr: That's basically true.

Mr. Bounsall: But there won't be any attempt to scrutinize the normal NRC operating grants to see if an individual faculty member's research is in keeping with some objective?

Dr. Parr: No. They can, of course, be scrutinized now after the fact, because they're all available in published form. I would imagine that it might be interesting, for example, to see when these are integrated at a university, whether they are with or opposed to, let's say, the recommendations that have been made by ACAP. If they were in conflict in terms of a research thrust, one would clearly be interested in talking to the university about it. Finding out why the recommendation of ACAP was apparently contrary to the way the research grants are going from Ottawa.

Mr. Bounsall: Yes, I understand that point. A given university department that's been scrutinized by ACAP and told that their strength in a certain area isn't in another area, surely develops the other area at their own peril, really, eh? Unless a very strong faculty member happens to land in their lap in that heretofore weak area.

But this brings up another point, then. Is there someone either now or contemplated in the future, going to be looking at the normal operating grants that are published, to see whether or not they are in keeping with Ontario's objectives or an ACAP report?

Dr. Parr: I think it's certainly too soon for me to answer that question as a civil servant, Mr. Chairman. But, of course, one looks at them with interest now. They're published annually by NRC, for instance, and Canada Council's lists come out. One goes through the lists to see what's happening at the universities, as a matter of interest.

Mr. Bounsall: Yes, but there isn't any interest at the moment to see if research

moneys are going into an area at a university which ACAP hasn't spoken to, or which ACAP has deemed to be weak, on the part of anybody.

Dr. Parr: No, not that we staff have done.

Mr. Bounsall: Right. Are there any plans for that?

Dr. Parr: No, there are no plans for it, but quite clearly the provincial initiatives in research are in every province becoming of greater concern to the provinces. And it's difficult to know precisely what will happen.

Mr. Bounsall: What discussions if any have gone on with ACAP over this?

Dr. Parr: I was just using that as an example of why one might be interested in seeing where funds are going.

Mr. Bounsall: Right. Has the attitude of the ministry changed at all about using provincial moneys in a wider way than it does now for support of research at universities in the Province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You mean the—

Mr. Bounsall: Other than just the overhead.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Are you talking about a higher BIU?

Mr. Bounsall: No, other than operating and overhead which follows the BIU formula. The Province of Ontario gives very few direct research grants or grants in aid of research, to be used for either equipment or salaries, to Ontario universities.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Those would be coming from other ministries, I think. Is that what you are talking about? Research that might be commissioned by, say, Correctional Services or Community and Social Services, or Transportation and Communications and that sort of thing?

Dr. Parr: There are fairly substantial funds for mission-oriented contract research with respect to—

Hon. Mr. Auld: We do quite a few ourselves, but they are in our own field.

Dr. Parr: Yes. With respect to the amount of money devoted to research, as you know there are many calculations of how much of a university's operating revenue is actually devoted to research, but however one makes the calculation I don't think you

would deny that it is a substantial amount of money.

Mr. Bounsall: All right, let's take it another way. How much money is spent by the various Ontario government ministries on mission-oriented research at universities? This would be of interest to you because you are interested in the whole area of university research programmes. Have you made those totals?

Mr. Wilson: We could obtain a fairly good indication of this; some of it might get lost. We have a pretty fair idea but we just don't have it with us right now.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Actually, you could get it from Management Board because that is where they are really doing it. Anything over a certain amount has to be approved by Management Board. Management Board, of course, goes through everybody's estimates and would know—could pick out the figures but although you'd have the figures you might not know whether it is short-term or just how mission-oriented it was.

Mr. Bounsall: I gather this has never been done before, has it? This is not a routine which to your knowledge has been done yet, even a sum total of mission-oriented research by the Province of Ontario?

Hon. Mr. Auld: How long ago did Management Board start that, about four or five years ago?

Mr. J. C. Yen (University Relations Coordinator, University Affairs Division): About four years ago.

Hon. Mr. Auld: About four years ago.

Mr. Bounsall: You mean you would be able easily to show us a set of figures going back four years in this area?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Put the question on the order paper. I don't think you will get it verbally; it might be fairly lengthy.

Mr. Bounsall: I would even settle, as a start, for just the ball park figures over the last four years. I am very interested in knowing whether it has gone up or down because by and large mission-oriented research of this type is going to Ontario universities. This

is a figure I would think your ministry would be rather interested in.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think we probably have the figures because we would get them from Management Board. I don't know whether we would have kept them or given them to the Committee on University Affairs. We haven't the figures here for the total. I would guess, going from recollection, J. C., that it has been increasing. That was one of the reasons why Management Board wanted to see a total four or five years ago.

Mr. Bounsall: I would be interested in seeing that if you could turn it out easily; the estimates of the ministry will be going on for a while.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Let me see if I can find it for you without putting four people on it for two weeks.

Mr. Bounsall: Yes, right; if we could just get the initial ball park figure. I have had the feeling for quite some time that Ontario has been parasitic in a sense over the years in terms of faculty members having to come from abroad because we weren't producing our own faculty members. Therefore as we were using people who are trained at other jurisdictions' expense we shouldn't be parasitic in funds in aid of research, which inevitably help fund research students, at this particular point. I have a suspicion that when those figures are produced one may find that they have been slowly decreasing even though the cost of living has gone up.

Dr. Parr: I think though, depending on how it's costed out, Mr. Chairman, that the amount of money which is available to the universities in research is still the larger amount and, of course, is increased with the increasing operating funds to go to the universities. These pay the salaries of the researchers, the university professors, while they are doing their research.

Mr. Bounsall: I'm talking specifically about grants in aid of research—not the general operating funds that come into the ministry. We'll talk perhaps after supper on the direct grants in aid of research. I have some general comments there on the funding.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m., the committee took recess.

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ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Standing Social

Development Committee

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Monday, June 3, 1974

Evening Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1974

The committee resumed at 8:05 o'clock p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

(continued)

On vote 2502:

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2502, item 2. I think when we finished the member for Windsor West had the floor.

Mr. E. J. Bounsall (Windsor West): I will defer to Mr. Stokes.

Mr. Chairman: All right. We'll come back to this.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I want to engage the minister (Mr. Auld) for a few moments on a subject I brought to his attention a few weeks ago, to the criteria set down by the various medical schools in the Province of Ontario for candidates gaining admission.

I sent a letter to Mr. Brian Sullivan, director of McMaster University's northern Ontario medical programme. His prime responsibility in conjunction with the Ontario Ministry of Health, is providing services and medical personnel to many areas of northern Ontario that are either unserved or underserved.

I had hoped that Mr. Sullivan would have interceded inasmuch as I was trying to gain admission for a particular student who was willing to practise in the north and who was married to a nurse. That kind of team is hard to come by in the north. Dr. Copeman, who is the senior consultant for the recruitment of medical personnel for northern Ontario for underserved areas, rightly pointed out to me that it is the responsibility of the universities to choose the candidates, for whatever reason using whatever criteria they may use, and they vary from one school to the other.

In the instance that I brought to the attention of Mr. Sullivan, Dr. Copeman and yourself, the person in question is a young chap who had applied last year on completion of his Bachelor of Science degree at Lakehead

University. When he was unable to gain admittance he went back for his Bachelor of Science honours course and just graduated. I was just talking to him over the phone. He graduated with first degree honours, with 80.1 per cent. He has already been turned down this year by McMaster, the University of Toronto and Ottawa.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): It is a closed shop; that is what it is.

Mr. Stokes: Pardon?

Mr. Haggerty: It is a closed shop.

Mr. Stokes: There were 80 selected for the McMaster medical course and 25 were put on a waiting list. He travelled all the way from Thunder Bay to McMaster for a personal interview and just received word that he was turned down. At the University of Toronto only one in seven was accepted because of the intense competition.

Both of those refusals were on a form letter. They didn't even give him the courtesy of a personal reply, it was just a form letter. He was turned down by the University of Ottawa on the basis that his academic marks were not high enough for a non-Ottawa-area resident. I am going to refer to remarks made by the minister in his opening statement earlier this afternoon. You said, and I quote:

I would also like to remind the committee that on May 14 legislation was introduced in the House to establish the Ontario Council on University Affairs, and it should effectively protect the autonomy of the universities in planning their programmes and development while enabling the minister to maintain his accountability to the Legislature and to the people of Ontario.

I take "accountability to the Legislature and to the people of Ontario" to mean that you, as the Minister of Colleges and Universities, of necessity would be vitally interested and concerned about the kind of programmes that were offered and the kind of people who would be able to gain admission to those programmes, having regard for the social needs in many areas of the prov-

ince. All you have to do is talk to Dr. Copeman, as I said, who is the senior consultant for the Ontario Ministry of Health with specific responsibilities for recruitment of medical personnel for unserved or underserved areas.

We do have the social development policy field now; and supposedly all of these programmes are, hopefully, co-ordinated in a way that you do come much closer to meeting the needs in the Province of Ontario than was the case in the past. But we are having extreme difficulty in recruiting the kind of professional people we need in the north.

If you have made a study of it at all, Mr. Minister, you will find that money isn't involved, because the incentive programmes where they guaranteed a doctor \$26,000 income after taxes and guaranteed a dentist \$22,000 after taxes to go and practise in underserved areas in the north didn't seem to help to any great extent. I am wondering, when you get people who are well qualified academically, who have that kind of longing to practise in the north, why you don't also use that as a criterion?

If you are going to play the numbers game where only one in seven applicants is accepted, say, for the University of Toronto medical course, then because of the sheer weight of numbers in the heavily-populated areas of southern Ontario, it is only by sheer accident that any of them from the north, where we have maybe 10 per cent of the population, get accepted at all if the main criterion is the academic standard.

When you get a young lad like this—and I know him personally—who has 80.1 per cent, who has his honours in a science course, and he is not even considered—you know, I am wondering, I am not going to call it discrimination, but I can't but think that the criteria used must be way out of whack.

I am sure there aren't very many candidates for medical school that will give an undertaking they will go back and serve in underserved areas, because experience in the past has shown they are just not attracted to those areas. The amenities are few, and unless you are longing for an outdoor experience in a small, underserved community where there are very few amenities, it takes a special kind of person to be attracted to that kind of life.

When you do get a person who is willing to make that commitment, with no financial incentive required, I think the medical schools in this province should take that into consideration.

I am hoping, Mr. Minister, that you will have the criteria reviewed and see what kind of criteria they are using, so that people in the north who are willing to return there will get a fair shake; because the real tragedy in northern Ontario today is the mass exodus of our most valuable resource, and that's our young people.

They will go to Lakehead University or they will complete their secondary school education, and then they have to come down to post-secondary educational institutions in the south—and that's the last we see of them. So, when there are opportunities for professionals to serve and to lead the kind of lifestyle they are used to, I think everything humanly possible should be done to try and attract them.

Now, you did mention in reply to my question in the Legislature that there were other criteria used and there was a sort of an ad hoc quota system invoked from one university to another, but the results are still the same.

This young chap I was speaking to not any more than a half an hour ago over the phone to check to see if anything had come through, said that of all his acquaintances who had made application to medical school, none that he knew from the north had been accepted.

I am just wondering if there is anything further you would like to add to your answer given to me in the House. Are you prepared to review this to see that these candidates are given an equal opportunity to enter this profession? Because it seems to me that anybody as dedicated as this young person is—he subjected himself to three interviews, was very well received, and the results were less than encouraging—deserves consideration. I am hoping that if you haven't already done so you will pay particular attention to the kind of guidelines that are used to ensure that people from the north are given an opportunity to enter this course and to fill a very acute social need back north where these services just aren't available and won't be available until we get people dedicated enough to return there and perform the kind of services that everybody takes for granted.

It's very easy for us down here to take it for granted. We pay the same OHIP premiums and we go a few blocks and we are able to get the kind of medical attention we think we deserve and that we are paying for through OHIP premiums. There are people in Armstrong, there are people in Pickle Lake and many of those communities in the north, who pay the same OHIP premiums but must drive up to 350 miles just to get a toothache

fixed or to get a tummy-ache diagnosed or something of this nature.

It's a need that's going on at the present time and I think the only way we are going to meet that need is to pay attention to these kinds of people who are willing to serve if only given an opportunity to enter these courses.

I am not going to prolong it, Mr. Minister, but I hope if you have anything to add to what you have already said to me by way of an oral answer in the Legislature, you will do so.

Hon. J. A. C. Auld (Minister of Colleges and Universities): Basically, Jack, I don't envy the selection committees at the universities. Just looking at the figures again, for the 1973-1974 academic year there were almost 7,600 applications for the then 575 places in the medical schools at the five universities.

Interestingly enough, I am told U of T gives some preference to candidates from high schools in the smaller areas, which would benefit northern Ontario as well as eastern Ontario in fact; and the University of Ottawa accepted 10 of 74 applications from northern Ontario in a class of 84, which is about 12 per cent; so they gave a definite preference.

I think the basic problem is that there are more qualified people who apply for medicine and some other fields than there are places for them in the universities. I mentioned in the House the increase in the number of places in the last six or seven years and what is projected, I think, until 1980 in terms of how many students will be able to be trained. As I say, there is a weighting factor in at least two of the schools which benefits the north specifically in one case, as well as other parts of the province.

There's no guarantee that somebody who comes from any part of the province is going to go back there and practise. My own experience in my own riding, which has a number of small communities, indicates that most doctors prefer to practise in an area where there is a large general hospital, because the facilities are there; and that's understandable.

I think the Ministry of Health's programme to encourage people to sign up to go to a certain area for a certain period of time has had some beneficial effects. It takes a while; that was about eight or nine years ago. It will be a while before the smoke clears away. Medical training takes seven or eight years minimum. So it was obvious it was going to take a little time to attract people.

As I said, I don't know that you can be sure that just because you give preference in one way or another to somebody from an area to go to medical school, or to take any other kind of course the result of which is required in that area, that they will return there. If we ever looked it up, I think we might find that a number of the people who are now practising in so-called sparsely populated areas may have come from large communities and decided they just wanted a change and enjoyed that kind of life.

I can tell you it's something that concerns me, and for a variety of reasons I think we need to find further incentives or further opportunities for people from various parts of the province in various disciplines to have some incentive which will outweigh the disadvantage they feel, sometimes justly, sometimes unjustly. I can't tell you at the moment what they are, because I don't know. But I read your letter. I read it again a few moments ago, and I can understand how that chap feels, because he is obviously terribly dedicated. Perhaps in theory at least the 575 who were accepted in 1973-1974 had the same kind of dedication and perhaps higher academic standing, which is the basic prerequisite in all the schools.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, well just to give you an example of how ineffective existing incentive programmes have been to date, my home town, the town of Schreiber, has a population of about 2,100. The doctor we have now came from Czechoslovakia. The one before that came from Ireland. They stay for a couple of years. They are worked off their feet. They are working 24 hours a day in a one-doctor practice, where they have to be available all the time. They very seldom get a weekend off. If they want to go fishing, they no sooner plan a trip than, bingo, something happens. There is an accident along the highway. It may be 25 or 30 miles away.

There was a double fatality last weekend that required the services of every available doctor. There were four injured, just two miles east of my hometown. They're expected to be on duty 24 hours of the day, and if you've got a single-doctor practice you can readily appreciate that they can only stand that pace for a short period of time and they're gone. If they don't their health is ruined. The one we've got now came from Czechoslovakia, and I'm sure that if he stays another two years he'll either move or he'll be a stretcher case himself. The one prior to that came from Ireland.

Five or six years ago they used to tell me that it cost at least \$75,000 out of the coffers of the province and the federal government to train a doctor. But I'll be darned if I know where the doctors are going. You get the Ontario Medical Association and the Canadian Medical Association saying: "We've got all the doctors required, it's just a matter of poor distribution."

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): They've got all the money required too, but it is poorly distributed.

Mr. Stokes: I'm sure there are many areas where the ratio of doctor to population may be one to 1,000; and if that's the case I suppose you'd say we're one of the better-served countries on the face of the earth. But you certainly can't prove it by going up north where—

Hon. Mr. Auld: It's very hard to get a stitch from a statistic.

Mr. Stokes: Pardon?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It's very hard to get stitched up by a statistic.

Mr. Stokes: Exactly.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I couldn't agree with you more. It doesn't apply just in the north.

Mr. Stokes: No, I'm sure it doesn't. But I was sent down here to speak on behalf of the north and that's what I'm doing. If the same thing exists in eastern Ontario I'm sure you're doing the same thing on their behalf. But it's pretty difficult for me to go back to people in Armstrong, for instance, and many communities like that where they literally have to drive hundreds of miles to get the services of a physician. They can go that far even for a doctor to make a diagnosis as to whether they should go into the hospital or whether they should take a pink pill or a white pill. It's very difficult for me to say to these people: "They're doing everything that's possible—they're only got 575 placements, and we were lucky enough to get 12 candidates from northern Ontario admitted into medical school." It might make good reading, but I'm sure I don't sound very convincing when I go back to them and say, I'm sorry your 80 per cent just isn't good enough.

So what do I do? There is a crying social need; there aren't enough placements. You already announced that you were spending about \$18 million on additional facilities for a regional medical school at Queen's. But that takes 10 years. You're spending \$18 million

now, and it'll take 10 years before we see any results at the other end through increased medical personnel or research or whatever the case might be.

I don't know what the answer is either. All I'm saying is there is a crying social need and I'm sure that your social development policy field should be taking a look at it and coming up with the kind of answers that will treat people the same wherever they may live in the Province of Ontario. As I say, they're paying taxes, they're subsidizing these medical schools.

I don't know what it costs to produce a doctor now, I suspect it's close to \$100,000; but the people in the north are paying proportionately a much higher amount of the cost of producing that doctor. The sales tax is higher, the cost of consumer goods is higher, and we don't think we're getting a fair shake. We're paying the same OHIP premiums.

I know it's not within your purview, but if we were to say: "Okay, let's make the cost of travel to medical facilities a direct charge to the OHIP programme"; maybe that is one of the answers, I don't know. It is going to take a combination of things.

I hope the next time you get sitting down with your colleagues in the social development policy field you make them aware of it. Hopefully, by the next time we discuss this problem in the estimates, you will have come up with a realistic solution to it. The problem won't go away. It is going to continue to escalate. It is going to get worse. I can assure you as long as I am a member of the Legislature I am going to continue to remind you of it.

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): But you remind a different minister each time.

Mr. Stokes: I hope you will take it seriously and maybe collectively we will be able to come up with some kind of combination that will provide a service that is so badly needed.

Mr. Chairman: Are there further questions?

Mr. B. Newman: Yes.

Mr. Haggerty: May I follow along the lines of the hon. member for Thunder Bay. How many Americans are enrolled in the medical school at McMaster University?

Mr. Laughren: You should have that off the top of your head.

Dr. J. G. Parr (Deputy Minister): I don't have that figure. But as I say, we will find out.

Mr. Haggerty: You don't happen to have them? I have asked this question—

Hon. Mr. Auld: The only figure I can give you on US student enrolment is one of the law schools in the province; there is one US student out of about 300 students.

Mr. Haggerty: No, I recall a case similar to the one mentioned here just previously by the member for Thunder Bay. A young student from my area tried to enrol in medical schools here in Ontario and he didn't have any success whatsoever. He graduated from the state university at Buffalo and applied at McMaster and was turned down. Apparently they said he didn't have sufficient marks or percentages or averages, or whatever you may call it. I understood in the United States they don't have grade 13 in their school system. They go to about grade 12, or something like that; it is similar to our grade 12. I was just wondering when they accept admission fees for the medical school at McMaster do they base it on the number of years in the secondary school system?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I don't think so. I can get a specific answer for you, but it is basically on academic standing—which would relate, I suppose, to the number of credits and the standing, as was discussed this afternoon; and also on how the admitting institution looks at the qualifications of somebody from another jurisdiction. When Ted was talking about the GREs and so on, there are some tests that are used where the institution to which the student is applying is not aware of the standards in the jurisdiction from which the student comes.

Mr. Haggerty: I know in a number of cases these students from the Province of Ontario have entered into other universities in Canada and have been successful. You sit back and question whether they are being treated fairly here in the Province of Ontario.

I had another instance where a young girl wanted to enter a law school here in the Province of Ontario. She applied at the University of Toronto and to Queen's, and both times she was turned down. I think in both instances the admission fee was kept, and the usual form letter was sent back out, which said—due to certain circumstances we cannot accept you this year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You mean the registration.

Mr. Haggerty: That is what rubs many of the students here in the Province of Ontario. When they know they can only take so many persons, they will still take that admission fee. I don't think that is quite right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You mean the registration.

Mr. Haggerty: The registration fee. So she ended up by going to the University of Windsor; I told her she had better grab it.

Mr. B. Newman: That is a good city.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh I am sorry; not registration fee but application fee.

Mr. Haggerty: Application fee then; not admission fee. Maybe you could check into that; because I think there is some abuse in this alone, just taking the application fee. They know they can't take any more students, as the enrolment has been filled up.

Hon. Mr. Auld: There are no particular rules about this, and of course there is some argument for accepting highly-qualified students from wherever. My own personal feeling is that if there is a relatively small number of places in a course, I would hope there would be a weighting factor that would encourage Canadian students and Ontario students rather than students from other jurisdictions.

Mr. Haggerty: She had an examination for admittance, and it was well above the normal I guess it is. But when you apply in two or three different schools at \$15 to \$25 a shot, it all adds up to these students when they have to get into the schools next year. I think some of this should be refunded.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed, Ray, that in 1973-1974 over 85 per cent of the students in Ontario medical schools were Canadian citizens; and of the remainder, the other 15 per cent, 12 per cent were landed immigrants and so three per cent were non-residents.

Mr. Haggerty: I wonder how many of them are draft dodgers too?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman?

Mr. B. Newman: I want to ask the minister about his statement earlier that academic standing was the prime criterion for deciding who would or would not go. Who decides this academic standing now? Is it the result of some testing procedure after the individual graduates from his previous institution, or are you taking the mark of the school from which he graduated?

Hon. Mr. Auld: What is the difference?

Mr. B. Newman: Oh a lot of difference.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Maybe I don't understand your question. My understanding is it is the marks that the student has from the previous—

Mr. B. Newman: But that doesn't mean anything, Mr. Minister. Those marks are internal marks. They could be padded, anything could happen. I am not saying that is done, but that is no way of assessing students' qualifications one against another.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well as an ex-school teacher, I am sure you wouldn't say that.

Mr. B. Newman: I am simply telling you that I can recall a community where parents told me their daughter had 85 per cent in their school; and she transferred to another school taking exactly the same programme and ended up with a 65 or a 55 per cent. They immediately blamed the teacher, not taking into account the fact that the quality of education in one area as opposed to the other may be substantially different or the marking scheme may be substantially different. So that you could get 82 per cent on a test with me and Ray, who is testing you on that same content, might classify you at only 55 per cent.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would hope Ray would have given me 95 as a matter of fact.

Mr. B. Newman: Ray knows you better.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Or probably less.

Mr. B. Newman: But, Mr. Minister, you can't use that basis at all, because I don't think there is any way of comparing one university graduate against the graduate of another university, even in the same discipline. It is not necessarily the same, depending on the exam that is given, depending on the feelings of the instructors. It depends on how pretty the individual is in some instances as to whether the mark is going to be higher or lower. This takes place, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well perhaps I should ask an ex-dean to answer that question.

Dr. Parr: I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, there is no complete answer. The universities, in admitting students through whatever programme, have to place some reliance on the grades the student gets from high school or from any previous years at university if there are pre-professional years.

Mr. B. Newman: But you see, in admission to the university you give them a test; a lot

of the schools do give the students a test before they will accept them.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes, but let me interrupt, Bernie, as an ex-student of many years ago. I have heard the argument many times, and used it myself, that in a fast test in strange surroundings you don't perhaps have an opportunity to do as well, because you are nervous about the test and so on. My understanding is, and I guess it changes every year or every few years when somebody tries to find another factor to put together, you start, as Dr. Parr says, with the marks from the institution from which you came; and perhaps some other test you write at the time; and then some subjective factors like an interview, and then you try to assess how interested, how dedicated, somebody is and that's tricky. It seems to be pretty generally agreed that you can be a whiz at exam time and perhaps get into some field that you thought you liked or you just wanted to get into for some reason, and you won't do as well. Even if you graduate with honours, you may not be as adequate as somebody who has a different kind of a dedication.

Mr. B. Newman: The young lad the member for Thunder Bay makes mention of, getting 80 some per cent, that young lad's 80 some per cent may be the equivalent of 95 per cent for someone else.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Or a 60.

Mr. B. Newman: Yet, you are accepting the one with the 95 simply because he got the 95 per cent; and you are turning down the one with 80-some per cent. Yet that individual may actually have a higher academic standing if you were to test both of these persons by the same type of exam or system. I am not saying it is necessarily so, but it may be like that.

I know one of the problems of the University of Windsor this year was in accepting students into a post-graduate programme. One of the profs claimed they were overrated in their marking scheme and as a result they really were not as qualified as some of the other students they compared them with. Unless you have some type of standard testing procedure, I don't see how you can really accept indubitably the marks that two individuals from different universities get unless both wrote exactly the same types of tests.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But if you are going to get down to this problem, without dragging it out too long, then obviously the answer is going to have to be something that is black or white. You are going to have a written

or oral examination where specific questions are asked. The answer will be either "yes" or "no," or right or wrong. Frankly, I don't think that is the answer. I think as a teacher, you would agree.

Mr. B. Newman: Not necessarily, Mr. Minister. I can recall when we used to have the departmental exams. At that time the standings throughout the province were such that you knew that if a student graduating from one of the high schools in the Windsor area got 85 per cent on French authors, his mark compared with the student who graduated from an Ottawa high school with 85 per cent, because they wrote the same type of test. Mind you, there may be other variables involved.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It didn't really tell you which one was a brighter student, because the argument to me—

Mr. B. Newman: But it showed to you that they both knew the same content to the same extent. Sure it did, what else did it show?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I don't think it showed the aptitudes of the student. It didn't indicate what the quality of teaching was that you mentioned a moment ago. Perhaps the student with the same curriculum in Ottawa had a good teacher, and the one who got 60 per cent some place else didn't have a good one. That is one of the reasons we are changing.

Mr. B. Newman: I'll accept that, Mr. Minister, but where they both have exactly the same percentage on an external exam, like the departmentals, doesn't it indicate they were on an equal intelligence level, or an equal level as far as one subject was concerned?

Hon. Mr. Auld: They were on an equal level as far as guessing the answers to the exam was concerned.

Mr. B. Newman: That's right, and you are basing the qualifications of entrance to the medical school on exams written in schools applicants attended before they applied to attend medical school. That is what you are doing, so you are disqualifying the boy from Thunder Bay because he only got 80.5 per cent—what was it, Jack?

Mr. Stokes: It was 80.1 per cent.

Mr. B. Newman: He got 80.1 per cent, and you are taking another boy from another area who may have got 90 per cent. And yet

the boy who got the 90 per cent may have got it on an easy exam—or on a set of easy exams—and the boy who got 80.1 per cent got this percentage on a tough series of exams.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Your suggestion is that the medical schools have their own exam for all the people who apply.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, for all who apply. That is what I'm suggesting, Mr. Minister. I don't know if it has merit, but I think your officials could at least study it and find out if such an exam would be a better answer to the problem than the way admission is now obtained to the medical school.

Mr. Stokes: Let me get back into this, Bernie, because I hadn't intended going into it. But this candidate subjected himself to three interviews. He said he got the distinct impression from the line of questioning, that in one institution they said: "We'll go back and see what you've got on completion of grade 13, and what your marks were in the first and second years of university, and see whether you improved as you went along." Because if he got good marks in grade 13, excellent marks in the first and second years, and then he started to taper off a little bit, that was a warning sign for the admission committee, because the committee could then say: "This fellow isn't keeping up. He is just sort of coasting toward the end."

On another occasion they would do just the reverse. They would say, because he did well in his final year: "He's a real comer." And they discounted anything that went before. If he was a slacker and just getting by, a very marginal student in grade 13 or the first and second year of university but a real whiz in his final year, that was the kind of person they look for in another university.

Let me get back to something else. In another case there was a young lad from Kenora who went to a university in the United States on an athletic scholarship. He graduated from Michael Power High School in Etobicoke with 92 per cent. He was one of the top students in the special all-Ontario competition they have for mathematics. He went over to Idaho on an athletic scholarship and graduated two weeks ago with a Bachelor of Science degree in zoology.

Last winter he applied for entrance into the course in nutrition at the U of T and was turned down. He wanted to take that course, then to go immediately from that into medical school; he wanted his master's in nutrition and then to go to medical school. He was turned down on the basis that it was

a limited course, that they had limited resources over there for that course and they could only take a very limited number of candidates.

I don't know what criteria they use, but he graduated from Michael Power High School with 92 per cent and he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in zoology with 91 per cent. Tell me what kind of criteria they use.

And while you're telling me that, tell me by what factor you reduce the marks for a graduate of an American university, even though he's a resident of Ontario, as opposed to somebody graduating from a Canadian university. I'm sure there must be some kind of factor used to equate the academic abilities of a student because he graduated from one school as opposed to another.

Since we're paying the shot, and although you like to say you're not going to lord it over these universities, whether they be medical schools or any other school, I think we have a right to know what criteria are being used so that we can assure the people who are paying the shot, the mothers and fathers, that everybody is treated on an equal basis. This young lad I referred to earlier got the distinct impression, in the three interviews he had, that they were looking for something entirely different, even though they were going to be subjected to the same course.

I'm not saying they should all be the same, but I think everybody should be given equal opportunity in this province of opportunity. That's not the impression I get at the present time. Maybe you will say: "Sure, we'll give the universities complete autonomy." But I think we should be in a position to assess the validity of the criteria that are being used, because they differ from one institution to another. When I read the letters I get from these people who have been turned down, I'm not convinced that everybody is being treated equally.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, I might just ask the universities for the criteria they use in medical schools. I mentioned a few of them, but I'd like to see if we can get the specific things and I'll pass them along to you. I think we will find they vary—well, obviously they do—and we'll just see what they look like.

Mr. B. Newman: You know, Mr. Minister, TLC is probably more important when it comes to nursing than a lot of degrees that the individual would have.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Which is more important?

Mr. B. Newman: TLC—tender loving care.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We've got so many acronyms in this ministry. I thought it was another committee.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. M. Campbell (St. George): Mr. Chairman, when we were going over these estimates last year, I can't recall who it was, but somebody mentioned that it would appear that universities have certain confidential ratings of high schools in this province. It was my understanding that the minister last year was going to try and soothe that situation, because I think if that exists it is even more serious than some of the other things.

If there is an automatic blacklisting or something of that nature on any high school, then I think the children of that particular area and their parents are being cheated.

Now I don't know if that exists, but it was my understanding this was going to be looked into to see if they could follow through on it. I don't know whether you can prove it or not, but at least I think it is something that should concern us. Because if a child somewhere in Ontario gets marks of 85 and somebody says automatically that because the school is a school they don't think is good they won't get the advantage of these credits, where does it leave us? I've talked to a lot of teachers, I've talked to a lot of students, and I must say that a great many students I've spoken with feel that to go back to some form of matriculation might be fairer; they tend to feel that there is unfairness under the present system.

I must say, also, that there are those who don't feel that way; and the teachers don't seem to feel that they should go back to it.

Not being in education, I don't know what's right. But certainly if there are any weighting factors against students in high schools or in universities across this province, I think we should find out about it. I wonder what, if anything, can be done to try to track this down? I don't know, I must admit, how you'd go about it, since the universities are so loathe to give any information to anybody about anything.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would say, from my knowledge of it, with certain exceptions like engineering, medical and law schools perhaps, with 65 per cent the average institution is delighted, and in some cases perhaps less, to accept the student. My staff tell me they don't recall the question being raised last year. There might be some sort of a list, but we'll check that out right away.

Mrs. Campbell: There is one other thing that was mentioned to me by someone who is rather well known in this metropolitan area, in referring to a problem his son had in university. Because of the choice situation, he got rather psyched into a problem. He took a subject which he didn't want to pursue. It had nothing to do with what he wanted to do, and it took quite some time to adjust his overall average, because his didn't complete the course. He knew he wasn't going to, it wasn't what he wanted, and yet when it came to his overall average this brought it down because it showed a nil mark for this particular subject.

The father was saying that it's quite distressing to try and follow through with the choices today. Now I don't know how much that would apply to medicine. I would think it would apply more, as in this case, to someone concerned with law or with law vis-à-vis business administration, as indeed it was in this case. All of these things may be having their effect on students, particularly in the north. I don't know that they do, but I think we should look at it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Well, of course, when you give students more choices at an earlier time—

Mrs. Campbell: Yes, it's devastating.

Hon. Mr. Auld: They may decide on the credits that they are going to pursue when they are age 14 or 15; and then at 16 or 17 decide on a different career, they then find that either they have to take some more subjects or have some sort of retraining or they in fact won't qualify because they don't have the secondary school subjects that are required for the course they are going to take. I don't know how you resolve that conundrum.

Mrs. Campbell: That is not what I was referring to, because obviously that is a different situation, where you don't have the courses to qualify. This is a case where on an interchange in university level, the general average was brought down because of a subject which didn't help in the course he wanted and which he didn't complete. I suppose that is a matter of reporting, but again people don't seem to take the students' concerns very much into consideration at the academic level.

I think that is one place where I have to agree that there is still a great class consciousness. I am sorry about it because one would have hoped that traditionally academics would be leading the community in thought instead of trailing it.

Mr. Chairman: Does item 2 carry? Do you want to get back on this one, Ted?

Mr. Bounsall: Yes. What programme have you in the backs of your minds to replace the slip-year financing for the universities?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think we discussed that very briefly in the opening. For the last three years, the Committee on University Affairs and the presidents had a subcommittee that was trying to work out a new formula. So far they have not been successful.

The first task as far as I am concerned for the new council, will be to take a look at our present formula financing and improve it. I can't tell you what that formula will be at this point in time, because there were 15 or 20—I am guessing—but quite a number of approaches kicked around in the last few years. But there was never agreement on a recommendation, so that my predecessors never had a recommendation to make a change. I think slip-year financing may have come from the Committee on University Affairs or it may have been introduced as sort of an emergency measure.

Mr. Bounsall: Yes, that was the point. It worked well for one year, in that crisis year; and then what you have left is an inadequate financial base on which to build.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It still seems to be working for a number of the institutions. I guess it is working for all of them, but with varying degrees.

Mr. Bounsall: Yes, right.

Dr. Parr: I want to add, Mr. Chairman, when slip-year financing came in it met with the approval of the Council of Ontario Universities. One university did not approve it, but agreed to cast their lot with the rest. The reason they didn't approve it was because they correctly foresaw an enrolment increase which was quite substantial. That made slip-year financing difficult for them, which is why it is difficult for the colleges to cope with slip-year.

As the minister has said, alternatives have been looked at and no agreement has been reached about them. Indeed, within the university community there is a great difference of opinion. As you know, the Ontario Federation of Faculty Associations would like to see, according to their briefs, substantial change in financing of the universities. If one were to attempt to speak collectively for the universities, the majority of them will say they are quite satisfied with formula financ-

ing. I think the staff of the ministry, however, would like to see other alternatives explored.

Hon. Mr. Auld: On the other hand, the COPSE report indicates that instead of the money going to the institution the money should go to the student; and then the student takes it with him to the institution of his choice, which is not terribly popular with the institutions; and perhaps not with the students either.

Mr. Bounsall: Was that—what did you say, 15 or 20 different proposals?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, I don't think that committee ever suggested that.

Dr. Parr: No.

Mr. Bounsall: Well, yes, it strikes me that the year that was brought in, that was an adequate response to that problem. But it was obvious to me at that time that something else had to follow it. In a situation where one cannot foresee the future, any overall expansion of the universities, looking at a rather constant situation or a slow growth or a slow decrease, a formula based mainly on enrolment just isn't going to work. Something else has to be done.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would say it was great for expanding.

Mr. Bounsall: It is great if you are expanding.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It was great for everybody when they were expanding. It's now great for the institutions that are at a viable level of enrolment. This is the reason we have the other two or three additional grants for emerging institutions for this sort of thing. If you take one that is built to handle twice as many students as they presently have, they are going to have problems until they have twice as many students.

I don't think there will be any single formula that will solve all the problems for some time until you get whatever in the business jargon is the breakeven point for an institution and students. That can be crossed up a little if, all of a sudden, there is a switch away from students wanting to enrol in the existing courses and go into new ones where there is a high capital cost involved in the facilities that are required for that new course.

Mr. Bounsall: Of course, those facilities are usually limited. There is an upper limit on them if they require extensive facilities.

How close do you think we are away from developing this formula?

Mrs. Campbell: How close are we away? That's one way of putting it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That's a good way of putting it because I don't think we'll have it next week.

Mr. Bounsall: You won't have it for the 1974-1975 academic year? Do you expect it may come in for 1975-1976?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think there are some problems which exist that we have to solve, but I don't know whether they are going to be solved. If there is anything permanent in the world, I don't think we are going to solve them permanently in the next year or so.

Mr. Bounsall: No, I suspect you may well be in a situation of one-year responses or several formulae, depending upon the size or the individual circumstance. Then you'll get into the area of an institution that falls in between, if you have two or three. I quite agree with you, I think it's going to be a changing thing perhaps from year to year.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It could be an inevitable change. In this rapid rate-of-change era in which we live, and the rate of change seems to accelerate, I really question philosophically whether there is any permanent solution. If you have a solution for four or five years, I think you are doing pretty well. If you look at the prognostications of student growth, for instance, after many studies and all kinds of computers and what not, they haven't been 100 per cent.

Mr. Bounsall: No, quite.

Mr. Laughren: Mr. Chairman, did the minister indicate earlier that he was prepared to amend the bill that he introduced in the Legislature concerning the Ministry of Colleges and Universities Amendment Act, 1974?

Hon. Mr. Auld: What the minister said was that there was concern about individual privacy and we were looking at that and it could be that there might be some amendment in that connection. I didn't say that there was going to be any amendment and I didn't say there wouldn't be.

Mr. Laughren: I assume you have had correspondence from OCUFA.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I was squarely on the fence.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, your feet planted firmly in the air.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, there is a difference. That's after you've been squarely on the fence and slipped.

Mr. Stokes: It's a pretty dangerous position to be in if it is a picket fence.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That's why I say, if you slip, ooh, ooh!

Mr. Laughren: I assume you've had the correspondence from the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations, about their concern for that bill.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I have met with the executive.

Mr. Laughren: You will take their fears into consideration, I hope. I think they have put it very well in suggesting the kind of cautions that were required in any amendments. I hope you'll give that serious consideration.

Does the minister have any opinion on the discipline code at the University of Toronto?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I know I have never read it.

Mr. Laughren: I know that it's an internal institutional document that's been prepared concerning discipline. I wondered if you had had any representations made to you by anyone in the university community.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, it seems to me there was one question in the House some time ago that related to that in a general way, but I've had no—I don't think any of us has had any representation from any part of the U of T on that question.

Mr. Laughren: Just one brief question. What are the related organizations that we're talking about on this vote?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, we're getting back to the vote. The degree-granting institutions—Ryerson, the Ontario College of Art, OISE. We are sort of half into OISE and the other half is in education.

Mrs. Campbell: But this is where the OISE vote is.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The one I missed was the bar admissions.

Mrs. Campbell: In connection with OISE, have we seen any change in the staffing of

OISE, since we were last here? Has there been any kind of a thrust to cure what seemed to be rather a heavy imbalance in Canadian staff or faculty?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am happy to tell you that the Minister of Education (Mr. Wells)—we have funds, but the Minister of Education reports for OISE.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes I know, but what do your funds do?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I am informed that they are simply the BIUs on the students.

Mrs. Campbell: I see. So that you wash your hands of it, shall we say, and leave it over to Education?

Hon. Mr. Auld: However, we happen to have the figures.

Mrs. Campbell: Good.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The total academic staff, including project directors, is 164. Canadian citizens, 60.4 per cent; US, 29.2 per cent; and other, 10.4 per cent.

Mrs. Campbell: US how much?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Twenty-nine point two per cent.

Mrs. Campbell: It struck me that we were up to about 31 per cent last year, if I'm not mistaken; but—

Dr. Parr: It is continually improved, Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: Now, can I find out something about Ryerson apart from CJRT? Have there been any further discussions about their fiscal problems? Are they working out of it, or what is the situation?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There have been further discussions and their problems are not entirely solved; but they're lessening.

Dr. Parr: I'm not aware of any current ones. Of course, last year when we discussed those during estimates there were some.

Mrs. Campbell: That's right.

Dr. Parr: I think we indicated then the change in the weighting of students and subsequently a change, I believe, in the weighting according to part time studies. And we have since had no further discussions with Ryerson about any financial problems. They have not brought any to our attention, to the best of my knowledge.

Mrs. Campbell: If I may, I'd like to go back again to this series of correspondence I've had. I would like clarification in the light of what Dr. Parr said this afternoon. I had based my information on nursing students on information sent to me by Dr. Parr, I guess, being a copy of a report from Milton Orris to him. I assure you I wasn't tampering with your files and I don't have a covering letter. So, I think that's how I got it.

Dr. Parr: Yes you did, indeed.

Mrs. Campbell: In that particular letter, they refer to the fees at Ryerson. You probably have it. I don't see a date on it; maybe it's at the bottom of it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Those memos are timeless.

Mrs. Campbell: March 8—it's pretty blurred to see it. I guess it's March 8 of this year. I'm sure it has to be.

Dr. Parr: March 28, 1974?

Mrs. Campbell: March 8 of 1974 is the date stamp on it; but I don't know the date of the communication. This is where they refer to the fees of \$636. I would like clarification, because nowhere following that in your letters to me, or anywhere else, has that fee been corrected.

In accordance with the information which you gave me today, it states that they did not pay the \$636 fee; and then it goes on to say further that Ryerson is able to set its own fees. And this year, of course, applicants have a choice of whether or not to go to Ryerson and pay the higher fee or go to a community college and pay the \$250 fee.

The fee that you referred to this afternoon was \$350, but the fee that Mr. Orris referred to is \$636; which was the information I had. And you will recall that I expressed my concern about students going to Ryerson, and whether or not George Brown, or others, could take these students if they decided that they would opt for the \$250 fee rather than the \$636; which made a lot of sense to me.

Dr. Parr: Mr. Chairman, although I haven't got Mrs. Campbell's memo, I have got Mr. Milton Orris—

Mrs. Campbell: Good.

Dr. Parr: —who wrote it; so we can get to the bottom of this.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes, because I'm still concerned about what I am still being told is the situation at Ryerson, for nursing students.

Mr. M. S. Orris (Programme Co-ordinator, Health Sciences, College Affairs Branch): I'm sorry, I didn't hear the first part of the question, Mrs. Campbell.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think the question, Milton, was that she received a copy of an internal memo about nursing student fees in relation to Ryerson. The memo indicates that new students who were going to Ryerson would have to pay \$636, rather than what I indicated this afternoon—\$350 at Ryerson and \$250 at CAATs colleges.

Mr. Orris: I think this information was obtained from Ryerson. I think part of the difference is that the nursing programme is a three semester rather than a two semester programme, so the fees are pro-rated on a slightly higher basis. And I also believe that that figure includes the other fees which are part of being a student at Ryerson. That's my recollection to the best of—

Mrs. Campbell: That doesn't help me much.

Hon. Mr. Auld: It is \$350, plus the students' union and the other things. Am I right, Milton?

Mr. Orris: Yes, I believe that is true.

Mrs. Campbell: Am I correct, or am I not correct, that \$636 will be the tuition fees for nursing students entering Ryerson in the fall of this year?

Mr. Orris: Tuition fees and student fees and related fees, as I recall it, Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: As opposed to what at the colleges—\$250?

Mr. Orris: Plus the student fees—

Hon. Mr. Auld: Plus whatever the student fees are, and other sort of incidental fees.

Mrs. Campbell: My friend, the expert over here, is telling me something—I don't know.

Mr. Laughren: I don't think that is very much. What do those related fees amount to?

Mrs. Campbell: That's right. I sort of checked it, but I took you at your word.

Mr. Laughren: It's not very much.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The big difference is that you would have to compare two semesters to two semesters. And if you start comparing two semesters to three semesters, then there is obviously a difference.

Mrs. Campbell: But my understanding—

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you are talking about how long it takes in total to complete the course—

Mrs. Campbell: But your deputy this afternoon, unless I misunderstood him, stated that a student attending George Brown, or attending colleges, would pay \$250.

Hon. Mr. Auld: For two semesters.

Mrs. Campbell: Now, are there three semesters? Is the course not the same at Ryerson? I'm talking about their course from a school of nursing, the same as the course from the school of nursing at George Brown.

Dr. Parr: I think I was probably unintentionally misleading; but let us have Milton Orris clear it up, Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: No, please don't mislead me any more than I am misled now.

Mr. Orris: The college programmes, including George Brown, run approximately three semesters of 10 or 11 months; and they charge a fee of \$250 per year, plus \$25 to \$35 student fees. It varies somewhat from college to college.

Mrs. Campbell: Then the fact that you are talking about a two-semester instead of a three when we are talking about nursing students in both cases, is somewhat irrelevant, is that not so, Mr. Chairman?

Dr. Parr: Yes, Mr. Chairman, except that we were talking of Ryerson's fees which are based on \$350 for the two semesters. The nursing schedule is three semesters, which increases it for the final 50 per cent.

Mrs. Campbell: So what you are saying is that \$636 is not what they will be paying?

Mr. Orris: It is what they will be paying and have been paying in previous years prior to the transfer taking place. It's not an increase in fees. It's the same fee as Ryerson charged prior to the programmes being transferred to that institution.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Ryerson's basic fee is \$350 a year and for the rest of their courses, that's two semesters?

Mr. Orris: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, may I go back then to expressing some of my concerns? I recognize that Dr. Parr has advised me that notwithstanding this difference, the registration

is still satisfactory. I just can't find it but that was the conclusion. My concern was, what happens if students should find out that if they enrol at George Brown for nursing, they will pay \$250 basic? So they decide that they can do without the Ryerson course, because Dr. Parr did advise me that George Brown college couldn't accept more students than are provided for in the approved quotas, which transferred with the former schools of nursing to the college.

Secondly, what provision is made for the staff at Ryerson should there be a fall-off with these students? I would think that as the word got around, students might very well decide that if the training were the same, they would take the course that was the less expensive?

Mr. Orris: We have been following through on bi-weekly surveys on the enrolment picture on the campuses throughout the province. Ryerson reports that its programme is now full with a waiting list. Two of the five campuses of George Brown still have a limited number of vacancies, so the problem certainly hasn't arisen this year at least.

Mrs. Campbell: All right. What about the loans for these students, or do I have to take that up in the loan programme farther along? Is it commensurate with the additional fee?

Mr. Stokes: I think you are being misled, Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: I know I am.

Mr. Stokes: From somebody who just graduated, the fee at Ryerson is \$420.

Mrs. Campbell: \$420?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You just graduated, Jack?

Mr. Stokes: No, I heard from somebody who has just graduated.

Mrs. Campbell: But that isn't for the nursing student? Well maybe somebody could get me the answer to this sometime because—

Dr. Parr: We will find out. In connection with your next question, if I may, Mr. Chairman. Although it may be on the other vote in determining the loan and grant, the student fee, or whatever it is, is taken into account. So the higher the fee, the more appropriation is available to the student in terms of loan and grant.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think basically our problem is that we seem to be getting into comparing oranges with grapefruit.

Mr. Chairman: Well, I wonder in doing that if we could—

Mrs. Campbell: Well, may I ask why? This is the Ryerson vote that I am talking about. I am sorry if I have misunderstood.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, we are not talking about fees. The fees are higher at Ryerson for nursing than at the community colleges and lower at Ryerson than the fees for degree courses of nursing at the universities.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, I am staying right out of degree courses at universities. There, I agree, we wouldn't be comparing the same things.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The confusing part apparently is that while the fees at Ryerson are the same, give or take a few dollars for all courses, the other courses at Ryerson are based on two semesters. So if you are comparing the nursing fee, which is three semesters, you have got to add a half to it.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, I think the problem really arises in my case for the nursing students who made representation to me. The fact is that basically they were transferred. The school that they wished to attend was transferred to Ryerson. I suppose it may continue a tradition of people who wish somehow to go to the school, or to the college that took over from the school that had been set up before. I don't know whether I'm making myself clear, but there's a good deal of tradition in nursing education as there is in other schools. People try to go as close as they can to a college, which would be taken over from a school such as Wellesley, Women's College or Sick Children's.

I don't know whether there's any validity in that, but at least I think that's how they got into it in the first place. When the transfer was made there seems to have been an allowance for that, because they were forced into that situation.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The existing students had no increase in fees, but the new students would have.

Mrs. Campbell: No. I was aware of that.

Mr. Chairman: It's been a pretty wide-ranging discussion that's gone over into the next vote to some degree. We're talking about colleges of applied arts and the rest of it. I wonder if we could—

Mrs. Campbell: As the minister said, Ryerson was in this vote as a related organization, specifically. I don't think that's wide-ranging, Mr. Chairman.

An hon. member: You tried, let's put it that way.

Mr. Chairman: Made a good try.

Mrs. Campbell: Don't try that hard. There's a vote.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I wanted to ask of the minister what he is doing to encourage excellence.

Mrs. Campbell: Zilch!

Hon. Mr. Auld: Drinking coffee.

Mr. B. Newman: I think you mentioned in your opening remarks, didn't you, about a certain number of scholarships available?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think when I made that statement in my opening remarks, I was talking about the Ontario graduate scholarships. They're to replace the fellowships.

Mr. B. Newman: Scholarships. Now, at what level are they: Are they post-graduate?

Dr. Parr: Yes, they're post-graduate scholarships. They replace the fellowships, which were on a quota basis to the universities, particularly for people who offered some commitment to continue in university teaching. At the suggestion of the universities, and with the recommendation of the Committee on University Affairs, the funds that were applied to that fellowship scheme were then applied to a scholarship scheme. The scholarships—in a greater amount, but slightly smaller in number—were awarded on the basis of a review of all applicants by a committee which was made up of academics.

Mr. B. Newman: You are then encouraging excellence at the high school level, so that the students could attend the university, are you not?

Hon. Mr. Auld: We aren't, but the Ministry of Education is, with their Ontario scholars programme—among others.

Mr. B. Newman: Do you agree with that principle, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: You do. Do you think that students in chemistry should be getting scholarships too for excellence in chemistry?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I don't want to get drawn into what I think you're trying to draw me into.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister!

Mrs. Campbell: He's a wily bird.

Mr. Bounsall: Just say they are the only ones who should get it.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I was thinking of that, as a matter of fact.

Mr. B. Newman: Well, you prefer to see excellence, regardless of whether it happens to be in one discipline or another, as far as university students are concerned. Are you going to provide athletic scholarships?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Pardon?

Mr. B. Newman: Are you going to provide athletic scholarships so that athletic excellence can be recognized?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I don't know. We're kind of short of football teams, but I don't know whether we need one.

Mr. B. Newman: I didn't say football teams, I just said athletic scholarships. There are other teams besides football teams.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That was a non-answer.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes, it was.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): Gymnastic teams.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would that we had more money—and it always comes down to money—for encouraging excellence. I'm not sure that my next choice would be athletic scholarships.

Mr. B. Newman: Are there moneys in your budget here for the promotion of excellence in scholarship?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Yes.

Mr. B. Newman: What is the difference between scholarships academically, or scholarships athletically, or scholarships musically, or scholarships in any of the arts?

Hon. Mr. Auld: A matter of degree, I suppose.

Mr. B. Newman: There's no degree. It's a matter of money.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I can see, Bernie, that you're an athletic supporter.

Mr. Haggerty: No, he's concerned about—

Mr. B. Newman: I don't know how you meant that, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You forced me into that, you know.

Mr. B. Newman: You'll have me streaking yet.

Mr. Haggerty: You've got nothing to hide, Bernie.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, do you realize that a lot of our athletes are attending universities outside the province simply because these other jurisdictions are willing to provide them with a university education for nothing?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I'm not sure that it's university education. I have read—

Mr. Haggerty: It is.

Mr. B. Newman: It is.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, but the purpose—I have read a bit about trying to keep the stadium full on Saturdays, and—

Mr. B. Newman: That's true, Mr. Minister, you read the exception. You don't read of the thousands of students who have gone there not only because their academic achievements were on a par with the average student, but because they had some special athletic skill. Why should they be deprived of the same treatment given to the individual who may have a chemical skill, or a musical, painting, or sculptural skill? They are all the same. There is no skill involved—in fact, the student who gets the athletic scholarship, and in some instances, who graduates from an American university, outearns any number of the cabinet.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We will have to look into it.

Mrs. Campbell: You touched a nerve there.

Mr. B. Newman: Dr. Parr is at poverty level compared to what a lot of these athletes are receiving as a result of excellence in a given sport. I think that you should encourage our Ontario students to remain in Canada by giving them some type of inducement. I don't mean to encourage them simply because they have athletic ability. They've also got to have the academic ability, the ability to be able to maintain passing grades.

You know, even that student who is a quiz kid attending at a university on an academic scholarship is probably completely uncoordinated when it comes to an athletic skill.

You reward one but you don't reward the other. I think you are discriminating. We'll have to have the Minister of Labour (Mr. MacBeth) look into the Human Rights Code and what you are doing to these fine young Canadian boys. The University of Michigan—

Mrs. Campbell: What do you mean?

Mr. R. G. Eaton (Middlesex South): And girls. Watch that discrimination

Mr. B. Newman: I humbly apologize, Mr. Chairman—fine young Canadian boys and girls.

Mr. Deacon: Youth.

Mr. B. Newman: Youth. You can slap me on the right wrist, Margaret.

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, Mr. Minister, the University of Michigan has crackerjack gymnastic teams because of Canadian youth. You know, those same teams could be here, plus other types of athletic teams throughout the US. You've got to consider that ability. It's a skill exactly the same as all of the other skills that I've mentioned, and it should be recognized.

Let's keep Ontario youth in Ontario attending Ontario universities, if it is their choice to do so. But when they go to the US, Mr. Minister, they are going because they are being financially assisted to complete their education. And they are not ding-dongs. They are extremely capable youth, not only athletically but also academically.

I think we discriminate against them and don't encourage our youth. If we don't encourage our youth by some other means than what we are giving them now, our athletes will never achieve their potential in international competition, if you want to use that as the criterion, not that it is necessary to use it, but if we want to develop excellence we should attempt to develop excellence in all fields—athletic as well as cultural excellence. And, Mr. Minister, come down with some type of policy on that to help these Ontario youths.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We are continually reviewing our programmes.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, I have heard that for 15 years in here.

Mr. Laughren: Not from this minister.

An hon. member: And from the same minister.

Mr. B. Newman: Not from this minister, no, but from your predecessors right back to John P. Roberts, when he was Minister of Education. And it's always been the same thing. You are reviewing it. In the fullness of time, it will eventually take place.

Mr. Minister, it shows disinterest on the part of you and your officials if you don't want to recognize that type of excellence. You will immediately say it leads to all kinds of hanky-panky. I don't see where it leads to hanky-panky when our Canadian graduate attends an American university and comes out with a degree showing capability in one academic line, and also is employed by playing one athletic activity for some professional or even amateur sports or comes back into Canada and uses his skills to develop more Canadian youth.

An hon. member: They go to the same universities.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Bounsall.

Mr. Bounsall: Mr. Minister, as one super-jock to another. I assume that someone entering phys-ed at a university, for example, has the same opportunity as an Ontario scholar as anyone entering any other discipline. And for graduate work in physical education or health education, they have the same opportunity for graduate fellowship as anyone entering any other graduate field. Is that not correct?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Thank you, Ted, that is correct.

Mr. Laughren: You don't know who your friends are, do you?

Hon. Mr. Auld: You just never know where you are going to get help these days.

Mr. Chairman: Is there further comment on item 2?

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the minister, what part is Ryerson playing toward the open academy? I can recall your predecessor (Mr. McNie) mentioned that Ryerson was going to be the open academy.

Mrs. Campbell: That's a later vote. They told me earlier today it's over on CJRT-FM.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, I think I said earlier today that the open academy can relate to almost that of the votes because it has relevance to all of them. But I think we agreed, that we would talk about it in vote 2505.

Mr. B. Newman: All right.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2 carried.

Item 2 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Item 3 carried?

Mr. Laughren: No. I was ready for this a minute ago. On the Council on University Affairs, did you create this new body merely because you wanted to formalize an advisory council? Or did you see a changed role for it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think it is fair to say it was recommended in the COPSE report that there should be a permanent body established by statute rather than an advisory body created by the minister, who in theory he might hold it up at any time.

Mr. Laughren: But do you see a different role for it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think that the role of the Committee on University Affairs evolved over the 10 years was functional. As you have noted, if you read the bill, we have specified very little, because we anticipate that it will change. I think it will start off more or less like the committee. But I think that they will, because of the history of the thing and because of the way that the legislation is not specific in setting out a whole lot of things, they will evolve their own rule to some degree.

Mr. Laughren: I know we can debate this bill in the Legislature, so I won't go into it in great detail. But what is happening in the interim? Does the CUA still have a mandate, or have they disbanded?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No. The Committee on University Affairs officially ceased on April 30.

Mr. Laughren: Right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: In the hiatus, the chairman and two members of the committee have been retained as consultants to the ministry who in effect deal with, hopefully, the few things that were not completely resolved and any things that may come up in the interim.

Mr. Laughren: You don't then—perhaps you do—envisage a more representative body? Or do you still see it as sort of an elite group—I don't mean that in a derogatory sense here, though I usually do—that would provide you with advice on regarding all aspects of university affairs, but which at the same time would have representation from student bodies and from part-time students and faculty?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Out of 12 people, as I indicated, we want to have as representative a group as we can.

Mr. Laughren: Oh, it doesn't say that on this.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But we cannot have a representation from every organization that has an interest. And that's just about everybody in post-secondary education. It's not going to be an easy task because we are wrestling with it at the moment.

Mr. Laughren: Right.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But you've got area representation, male and female, academic, the business community, the number of students—

Mr. Laughren: Of course 12 is an arbitrary figure you selected so you can't restrict it—

Mr. Bounsall: You can go higher, can you not?

Mr. Laughren: You can go higher.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think the Act says at least 12. We may find we have to have more than that even to start off with, although we are trying to start with 12.

Mr. Bounsall: In this area are you—

Hon. Mr. Auld: That leads to the evolving role. As I mentioned, we may find in a year or in six months or two years that we need further representation from some area which we hadn't considered previously.

Mr. Bounsall: I am interested in the appointments in this area. Will some of them be appointments which are suggested to you by the various organizations themselves? For example, if it is a good idea to have an OCUFA person there, would that be a person suggested to you by OCUFA? If you had a student or students there, would they be persons suggested to you by those organizations even though the appointment, once made, may well be for more than a one-year term?

Hon. Mr. Auld: To take the term first, my guess is the cabinet will decide that in the first instance some people will be appointed for one year, some for two and some for three. This is the way we have been doing all of these boards and so on in recent years. It will be a three-year term eventually.

I have indicated that I would be delighted to get a series of recommendations from a variety of groups which have asked, including specifically OCUFA. I have also indicated

that what we don't want are people who come to represent a sort of specific constituency. We want a person because of his or her general capability and background but we don't want them representing an organization which suggested them.

Mr. Chairman: Any further questions on item 3? Is item 3 carried?

Vote 2502 agreed to.

On vote 2503:

Mr. Chairman: Item 1, programme administration. Adult education.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Would you like me to read the very short piece I have here which indicates what is basically in the vote?

Mr. Chairman: Yes, I think it would be wise.

Hon. Mr. Auld: This programme deals essentially with the funding of the 22 Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology, including grants for adult training and apprenticeship programmes sponsored by the federal government. Funds are also provided for training in business and industry and for the six provincially-operated schools for registered nursing assistants.

The programme is administered in the ministry by the college affairs and manpower training division with the Council of Regents strengthening the link between the ministry and the colleges.

College operating grants are 8.5 per cent higher than in 1973-1974 and the reason why this percentage is less than for universities is that the colleges received enrolment growth grants in 1973-1974 which effectively funded them on a current year enrolment basis for that year. The increase of 8.5 per cent in 1974-1975 is a result of a 7.1 increase in the basic income unit and the payment of an enrolment growth grant of \$500 per additional full-time student. Grants for adult and apprenticeship training reflect the federal government policy of holding the line in these areas.

Of course, to add to it, there is a different situation in the colleges in terms of enrolment growth from what there is in universities. That is why the \$500 was added there.

Mrs. Campbell: What is the cause of the increase in the programme administration branch? Is that strictly salaries and benefits?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Basically, as we said in all of them, there are certain changes. There

aren't very many changes in this one. It would be about 10 per cent in terms of salaries, with salary increases and merit increases. The big one in supplies and equipment—

Mr. Deacon: I would think, now that the colleges are fairly well established, we could be looking to a lower amount in programme administration in this, couldn't we?

Hon. Mr. Auld: There is a difference here, Don, because the manpower training end is where we have most of the bodies.

Mr. Deacon: I see. So actually it involves working with Manpower and co-ordinating the training programmes that they work out with you? This is a liaison job, is it?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That's pretty close to 100 per cent recoverable from the feds in the manpower training end. We had some problems in terms of accounting, but those have been sorted out.

Mr. Deacon: Then could you give us an indication—

Hon. Mr. Auld: There are about 40 people. I don't think that the staff of the colleges' end has changed greatly. Has that increased by one, Lorne?

Mr. L. M. Johnston (Assistant Deputy Minister, College Affairs and Manpower Training Division): No, the staff from the college affairs branch has actually decreased from one year ago.

Mr. Deacon: Well, I am pleased to hear that. Then, of your \$5.6 million, how much of that would be related to the manpower programme and how much would be recoverable from the feds?

Mr. L. M. Johnston: Approximately \$52 million or \$53 million will be recoverable from the federal government.

Mr. Deacon: I was thinking, though, of this particular item of programme administration; you say most of the responsibilities of your personnel are in co-ordination with Manpower.

Mr. L. M. Johnston: The amount recoverable there is \$4,522,100.

Mr. Deacon: So \$4.5 million of the \$5.6 million is recoverable from the federal government? That's impressive.

Mr. Chairman: All right. Floyd.

Mrs. Campbell: I've been waiting for an answer about supplies and equipment. The minister was about to give an answer.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, sorry. Of the total, \$33,000 is for data processing, which was not previously charged to us by the Ministry of Labour. Furnishing and relocating the manpower training field offices—I think I mentioned in my introductory remarks, or at some point, that we were relocating them so that they were close to or in the same place as the community colleges—involves about \$20,000 for moving expenses and some furniture. Photocopying and artists' supplies, \$20,000, has to do with redesigning of forms; a great deal of graphic material is used in producing the course content, and I guess, Lorne, they are almost all being re-done.

Mr. L. M. Johnston: Yes, and there is graphic work in producing the examinations that are used for the tradesmen and apprentices who are qualifying to become tradesmen.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The other big part in the services, of course—oh, you asked me about supplies and equipment; sorry.

Mrs. Campbell: No, I asked about the total vote, and you volunteered supplies and equipment. I'd like to know about services.

Hon. Mr. Auld: The big increase there is the increase that you see in all the service votes, where the temporary staff are now charged to services, rather than to salaries and wages.

Mr. Chairman: Are you through, Mrs. Campbell?

Mrs. Campbell: On that vote, yes.

Mr. Laughren: Mr. Chairman, I'll try to keep my questions to those areas dealing with policy rather than specific colleges. I would have thought that Mr. Sisco would have been here tonight to partake in the debate, Mr. Chairman. As you know, he is chairman of the Council of Regents.

I am wondering, as a broad policy within the ministry, whether or not the council is concerned about the direction of the colleges and whether or not they detect a change in the direction of the colleges; whether or not they can detect any sense of feeling by the public at large about the direction or the change in direction of the colleges. When I talk about direction or change I am thinking of the attempt of the colleges to cater to the cultural, vocational and educational requirements of their students, and whether or

not the ministry is aware of any such change. If it is, is it encouraging that change or is it just letting it drift?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Are you speaking about a change from what in the general, very broad concept was included in terms of Outreach and a lot of so-called cultural things with a technical aspect to them, but without an immediate job opportunity at the end?

Mr. Laughren: I will try to be more specific. When I talk to people out there in the community—and I have been, for example, on a couple of open line programmes both up north and down here, and have done a little bit of writing on it, and have had feedback from constituents not just in Nickel Belt but from across the province. I have a feeling—and I don't say this in a destructive way—that there's a sense of suspicion about the colleges and about the direction in which they are going and about the cost of the colleges. This concern is not just in straight dollar terms, but for what we are getting out of the colleges—that the money may not be as well spent as the money that is being put into universities.

I personally don't agree with that opinion, but I can tell you that that is what has been coming back to me over a period of, say, a year or a year and a half. I am wondering whether the ministry has a sense of that or whether I am just picking something out of the public that perhaps I feel and am reacting to?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I must say that I haven't had any comments along those lines, myself. I have been here a short time. Perhaps, Lorne, you might have some comment on that?

Mr. L. M. Johnston: Mr. Minister, my comment is much the same. I can't say that I detect any definite reaction to the type of thing that you are talking about, Mr. Laughren. However, I think it is fair to say that we are conscious all the time of whether the colleges are indeed heading in the right direction, whether the taxpayer is indeed getting value for the money that is being spent in the colleges. I think that is foremost in our minds at all times. But I can't say that I detect any definite reaction, or even any definite questioning, at this point in time.

We are, I think it is fair to say, encouraging some of the colleges which are taking some initiative in this area. A couple of the colleges, for example, are moving slowly, but I think rather significantly, into the corres-

pondence area to reach people, and we are encouraging them in that endeavour. That is something relatively new.

Mr. Laughren: How would you explain— you, Mr. Minister, or your officials—the feeling in the province that there is indeed room for another level of education called an open academy, an open sector? I am very concerned about this. Does the minister see the role of the colleges as providing what an open academy would provide to the population?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I would say I see them providing part of it. Perhaps Dr. Parr, who is a little more familiar with what has gone on before—

Dr. Parr: I think it would be helpful, Mr. Chairman, if one distinguished between the open academy and the open sector. I realize that one can argue about the definitions, but if one regards the open sector as being a collection of quite informal post-secondary resources—the libraries, the museums, historic buildings, literature, that kind of thing—and the open academy as being more directed towards some kind of qualification, then we can separate the two, even though we may have slight differences of opinion on them.

With respect to the open academy, it can, of course, be argued that one sets up a single new network as was done in Britain. I think that equally one could argue that that doesn't fit the requirements of the Province of Ontario for a number of reasons. We are currently working on possibilities for such an availability of diploma and degree qualifications. One alternative, for instance, is to encourage institutions to offer external degrees and diplomas, which currently they do not.

With respect to the open sector, there is a good question which is asked. Should these be co-ordinated in some way about the colleges which feel that they do have such a mandate? Indeed, one of the problems with the open sector at present is that although already there are many resources in it, and one does not want to over-organize them, there is a lack of co-ordination in order that they be used most effectively. The role of the college in that area, I think, has yet to be determined.

Mr. Laughren: If I could pursue that a little bit further, Mr. Chairman? I disagree with Dr. Parr in that I don't think there should be a distinction between the open academy and the open sector. This is where I see the role of the colleges coming in. The colleges should be part of the open sector

and should really be the open academy of Ontario. And, in that sense, they would be the co-ordinating body that would utilize their own resources, and the resources of what you refer to as the open sector, and would be the open academy, inseparable from the colleges as we now see them. Then you would get away from what has been happening to the colleges, namely, their institutionalization.

I think that most of us in this room would agree that that was not envisaged as the direction of the colleges back in 1967. What was envisaged was something entirely different, considerably more open than what they are, utilizing the resources of the open sector more than simply their own resources.

They seem to be relying more and more on their own resources. They seem to be taking into their campuses the resources that are required in order to do the job. It seems to me that that's the opposite of what they should be doing; they should be moving out from their campuses, not back into it. We've talked about this before in these estimates debates in the past couple of years but, of course, never with the same minister. I hope that you will very seriously consider that, when you're thinking about an open academy.

I know that the select committee of which I'm a member is going to make certain recommendations that would fit in with your idea of an open academy. I think that's fundamentally wrong, for a couple of reasons.

First, it is letting the colleges off too easily. The colleges should be told that they are to be the open sector and the open academy combined, in order to go out into the community and make education considerably more than it is now. The other reason is: Do we really need another section, another level, another bureaucracy of education, in the Province of Ontario? I don't think we do.

I'm most critical of the Council of Regents. If the Council of Regents had been doing the job that I think it should have been doing, we wouldn't be debating this. They would already have moved so aggressively into the open sector that we wouldn't even be talking about an open academy in Ontario. They would already be there. And the Council of Regents would be pushing the ministry for innovative grants to the colleges to get out there, and would be diluting any arguments that are being made for the need for an open academy in Ontario.

I feel very strongly about that, and I hope that the minister will give it very serious

consideration before he starts messing around with an open academy.

Hon. Mr. Auld: That's very interesting.

Mrs. Campbell: You mean the government would take over the open academy at Ryerson type of thing?

Mr. Laughren: No, I'm opposed to Ryerson being regarded as an open academy too. Then you end up with an open academy in Toronto, which needs it the least.

You have all those campuses across the province now, in every section of the province, and the resources to go out into all those remote communities—in northern Ontario, for example, although not just in northern Ontario. I think it would be a real shame and a waste of potential in those institutions.

The people in those institutions have an enormous capacity for change and for inventiveness, and despite what some people would have us believe, the faculties in the colleges, I think, are just tremendous. They have a mixture of academic qualifications and practical experience and a desire for change that is not matched in any other level of education in the Province of Ontario. I don't think that they are being tapped the way they should be, just as the physical resources of the community at large are not being tapped.

So I would be opposed to an institution like Ryerson becoming an open academy. I would be opposed to the creation of a separate open academy in the Province of Ontario.

I don't know how you can do it if you keep the Council of Regents as it's now constituted. I don't believe that you could ever change the direction of the colleges with the present Council of Regents. I will support you no matter what job you want to give Mr. Sisco. I think he should be employed, but I can tell you I don't think it should be as chairman of the Council of Regents. It's very unusual for me to say that about a civil servant who I like as an individual, and all the blame doesn't rest with the chairman of the Council of Regents, of course. But I feel so strongly about this—that the Council of Regents has not given the direction to the colleges that it should have given. That's why we are debating yet another level of education in Ontario.

I urge you as strongly as I know how, Mr. Minister, to consider saying to the colleges, through the Council of Regents—if not the Council of Regents, then another

advisory body that would replace the council—"Look, things have changed. You started off. We envisaged you going in one direction. You haven't achieved the potential we thought you would. We are going to lay it on you now. The grant system is going to be different for you from now on and we are going to have an outreach programme, the likes of which we have never seen, and the potential is enormous."

What is the attrition rate in the colleges now? Do you know?

Hon. Mr. Auld: It varies a bit, but it's fairly high—have you got the figure, Herb?—mainly because so many people get a job that they decide not to continue.

Mr. Laughren: I understand that, yes.

Mr. H. W. Jackson (Director, College Affairs Branch): Mr. Chairman, you may recall from the discussion last year that attrition is a technical term used by statistics people which measures the number of students who started the course who actually complete it and get a diploma—it doesn't indicate what happens to other students along the way who leave for various reasons. As a result, it gives the impression that the primary objective of the college programme is to get a diploma.

In collecting the information on the graduating classes for the current year, we have provided them with some specific breakdown of what happens to students. This, we expect to be able to gather details on which students transfer to another programme within the college, which students will carry on to further education, which students leave before they have completed the programme because they have met their objective to get suitable employment, and which students did have to drop out for personal reasons.

As you are aware, the college year is just being completed. These statistics are starting to come in. We have them from one of the smaller colleges which could complete them fairly quickly. We expect them to be coming in from the remainder of the colleges during the next few weeks. They will be available to you, hopefully, by the end of June for this current year.

Mr. Chairman: At this particular point, I believe our attendance is required in the House by all parties. What is the desire of the committee? Is it to return here following the vote?

Mr. Deacon: It is just 10 o'clock.

Mr. Haggerty: It is after 10 now. By the time we get done there, it will be about 15 minutes.

Mr. Deacon: We can get it over in good time. We just have to vote.

Mrs. Campbell: I don't see, Mr. Chairman, that we can at any time refuse the opportunity to sit in this committee since it is always our loss if we lose time.

Mr. Deacon: That's right. Let's come back.

Mr. Chairman: Well and good.

The committee recessed at 10:02 o'clock, p.m., for a vote in the House and reconvened at 10:10.

Mr. Chairman: Well, we have a quorum, all but one. Maybe we could get on when the minister is here. Is that satisfactory, Floyd?

Mr. Laughren: Just before we adjourned, Mr. Jackson was trying to separate the wheat from the chaff, and I am not too sure he succeeded when he was talking about the attrition rates. It's incredible that institutions like the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology cannot provide those exact statistics, considering the sophisticated network of former SRG creations across the 22 colleges. I guess now it's called Connect Campus, or Campus Connect. Which is it?

Mr. Jackson: Just Campus, now.

Mr. Laughren: Just Campus. I see.

Tell me, just as an aside, what is that costing the colleges today?

Mr. Jackson: The estimate for the coming year is about \$530,000.

Mr. Laughren: This is still an aside, Mr. Chairman—what happened with the company; was it SDL?

Mr. Jackson: SDL is the parent company.

Mr. Laughren: Were they in financial difficulty? Or are they?

Mr. Jackson: I understand their educational division was having a little bit of difficulty.

Mr. Laughren: That is hard to believe, considering the contracts they had with the colleges. To what extent is that financial difficulty serious? Do you know?

Mr. Jackson: I am not aware of the internal workings of the company itself, but they weren't having as much success selling their systems to smaller colleges as they would

have hoped to have had, so that I think their success last year was a little disappointing to them.

Mr. Laughren: But are you saying that the small colleges had a choice?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I think Mr. Jackson is talking about another jurisdiction.

Mr. Jackson: Yes, another jurisdiction.

Hon. Mr. Auld: He is not talking about Ontario.

Mr. Laughren: Oh, I see. That leads one to an interesting question, though. When are you going to make the utilization of Campus elective?

Mr. Jackson: Elective? Well, I think that would defeat the purpose of the system, Mr. Chairman. The advantage of having a system-wide pattern—

Mr. Laughren: No chaff, now. No chaff.

Mr. Jackson: —is so that we can make a comparison among the institutions. That is, on an apples versus apples basis, rather than on an apples versus oranges basis. If you start to make it elective, you have some odd-man-out situations right off the bat.

Mr. Laughren: I wouldn't dare say I've read, but I have scanned, a couple of the five-year plans—I should have brought one with me—which primarily is the creation of Campus, and I am wondering to what extent you are finding those publications useful.

Mr. Jackson: I think not only is the ministry finding them useful in that we can detect the areas in which the colleges are placing the main emphasis in the distribution of their resources, but you will also find that the boards of governors are becoming a lot more knowledgeable in the operation of their own colleges. They are being able to ask questions now of their administration by having a comparison of their college with other colleges.

Mr. Laughren: You could be right. But I would suspect you would have great difficulty getting any letters of endorsement from the college presidents across the province.

Mr. Jackson: I think we might get some.

Mr. Laughren: What would you use as a weapon, BIUs? I'd like to, perhaps, come back to that at a later date when I have got one of the five-year plans in front of me. I went through one of them and I found it

difficult to know how the colleges themselves would find them very useful, because of some of the information that was in them. Perhaps they would. I would want to be shown how they could use that information intelligently, or how the ministry itself could make use of 90 per cent of the information in those five-year plans. It seemed to me they were an exercise in computing, but not much beyond that. But I stand to be corrected. I hope I will learn something about Campus in the next little while as these debates continue.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I don't want to put in an objection—and don't consider it as such—but this is really in the first vote, which I mentioned in my introductory remarks about statistical and computing stuff. But nobody brought it up.

Mr. Laughren: The vote that we already passed? I see.

Mr. Deacon: The ministry vote?

Hon. Mr. Auld: I read the figures—however.

Mr. Laughren: I am glad you are not registering it as an objection.

Mr. Deacon: This comes under your ministry.

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, it comes in under—

Mrs. Campbell: Programme administration.

Hon. Mr. Auld: —vote 2501.

Mr. Laughren: Of course, the decision to lay it on the colleges, surely, is part of this vote—as it applies to the colleges.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Vote 2501, item 3.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, but Campus itself—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I just throw that in. I'm not going to argue with you, but I just thought I'd—

Mr. Laughren: No, the minister is on shaky ground. That's why he is not going to argue with me.

Mrs. Campbell: He would close you out if he thought he had a chance.

Mr. Laughren: Is not Campus involved strictly with the colleges? Is it involved with the universities as well?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No, no. In the common services end is where we have all the computer and statistical stuff, which we discussed at some length.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, I understand. Does the minister feel there is no need for Campus in the university system?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Oh, no. I just say that there is one in the college system—

Mr. Laughren: No, what?

Hon. Mr. Auld: —but the operation of it comes under vote 2501, item 3.

Mr. Laughren: I understand that. What I'm asking you is do you feel there is a need for Campus in the university system in the provinces?

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is going back to the discussion we were talking about in information awhile ago. I don't know that this is the kind of system that we would have. I don't know enough about it. I think we need more information.

Mr. Laughren: Who in your ministry is responsible for Campus, now that Al Gordon has left?

Mr. L. M. Johnston: Mr. Chairman, I guess the ultimate responsibility rests with me through the deputy to the ministry.

Mr. Laughren: And who is the assistant deputy minister for universities? Is that Mr. Wilson?

Dr. Parr: Yes.

Mr. Laughren: Is that Mr. Wilson there?

Dr. Parr: No, he has left.

Mr. Laughren: He's left, oh. I must talk to that man before Mr. Johnston lays a heavy on him about the value of Campus.

Hon. Mr. Auld: You're too late because we passed the universities.

Mr. Laughren: Yes. I don't want to belabour the whole questions of Campus but nothing has titillated me so in this ministry as its insistence upon having Campus throughout the college system, despite the wishes of the colleges. As a matter of fact I was employed in the college when they first came in and asked questions about the colours of the walls, the arranging of the furniture, interior and that sort of thing.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Leaks in the roof?

Mr. Laughren: Leaks, yes. We'll get to that too.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I saw it.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, you did. I understand that.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If we're talking about the same one.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, we are talking about the same one. As a matter of fact a question came up recently as to whether or not I might return to be employed in a college of applied arts and technology—

Mr. H. C. Parrott (Oxford): Good idea.

Mr. Laughren: —if fortune turned against me and I was seeking a job in 1975. I said I had such a good time when I worked there that I thought it would be a good idea, although I wasn't too sure that being a critic of Colleges and Universities was much of an asset in getting back into the colleges. It was then put to me that if I didn't take a stronger position on getting phase 3 I might never get into the college at Cambrian anyway.

Hon. Mr. Auld: If you go back there, as I said the other night, I would do anything to help. We'll give them a special grant to fix that leak that was pointed out to me the other day.

Mr. Laughren: No, I think I'll stay here until I see one mission accomplished and that is—

Mrs. Campbell: That will be a re-run.

Hon. Mr. Auld: We're not talking about different missions.

Mr. Laughren: No, until I see the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology become the kind of open educational system in the Province of Ontario that I think they should be.

Hon. Mr. Auld: Then we may need a bigger hole in the roof.

Mr. Laughren: No walls at all is what you need with colleges.

Are you prepared, Mr. Minister, to discuss at all the question of the negotiations between the faculty and the ministry—I say ministry—as of now?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Actually I would prefer not to because they are going on at the moment and for obvious reasons—seriously—I would prefer not to. They started back again—what, a week ago Friday?

Mr. Jackson: A week last Wednesday. The two committees met a week ago Friday and agreed to go back to the bargaining table which they did last Wednesday and the last

report we had today is that they are still at the bargaining table.

Mr. Haggerty: How long have they been at the bargaining table now?

Hon. Mr. Auld: Long enough to change the table.

Mr. Jackson: This last one has been going all weekend.

Mr. Haggerty: Yes, but previous to the last round. They have been bargaining for the last two years, haven't they?

Mr. Laughren: A little over a year on this one.

Mr. Haggerty: A little over a year? How long are you going to continue with this type of—

Hon. Mr. Auld: I really can't say, but I would prefer—

Mr. Haggerty: You must have some—

Hon. Mr. Auld: —not to say anything about it because, I would like to—

Mr. Laughren: Your predecessor, who allowed Bill 189 to bring the college faculty under the purview of Bill 105—the Crown Employees Collective Bargaining Act—did a great disservice to this ministry and to the faculties in the colleges in Ontario.

Mr. Haggerty: That tied them to the—

Mr. Laughren: That is really the root of the problem. The root of the problem is not this minister or this ministry; it's not the presidents of the colleges; it's the Crown Employees Collective Bargaining Act. I am sure you have seen the brochures that are being put out now called, "Free the Servants." Have you seen that?

Hon. Mr. Auld: No.

Mr. Laughren: Oh, the minister must. It is a magnificent campaign, and appropriately entitled, I might add. There is a picture of a large purple elephant. When the Ontario government hires someone they have a picture of a large elephant on material that is headed up, "What It's Like to Work for a Giant"—I think they use the word "giant."

Mr. Haggerty: Do you suppose that is the American influence in our universities and colleges today?

Mrs. Campbell: No, it is in our PR.

Mr. Laughren: Yes, public relations. And, in this campaign it says, "What It's Like to Work Under a Giant"—and it shows a poor civil servant with his arms and legs sticking out from underneath the elephant—and that's Bill 105 they are referring to.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I'd just like to make one comment. The argument, of course, was that the chairman was management. And out of the 12 arbitrations that he has chaired, 11 resulted in a unanimous decision. And in the 12th one there was one dissident, who was the management representative, who disagreed against the chairman and the staff representative.

Mr. Laughren: Yes but, of course, that shows you the integrity of the faculties—CSAO in this case—because what they were objecting to was the principle that two out of three of the appointees on the arbitration panel were selected by the government; namely, management. They weren't saying, "Look at all the past decisions of the judge." They were saying that in principle you cannot have it that way.

Hon. Mr. Auld: I just want to say one other thing. That is, that for a long, long time there have been arguments proposed—particularly by labour, rather than the management end—that there should be competent, experienced people as chairmen, because of the problems of getting chairmen who really understood the process.

The federal government has reached that point, too, I gather, with the study and report that they have received.

I am not arguing with you, I am just saying that it is a very difficult situation. I think there is a lot to be said for having competent chairmen, whether you have a panel of them and the two sides pick from that panel, or whatever system you use. There is also, I think, a greater degree of independence on the part of somebody who is appointed for a specific period, just as there is on the bench. The person does not have to be influenced by anybody.

Mr. Laughren: Of course, you could back up another step, too, and say that the real problem is the whole concept of compulsory arbitration.

Hon. Mr. Auld: But nobody has yet found an effective alternative for certain essential services.

Mr. Laughren: Well, with your definition of essential services—

Hon. Mr. Auld: That is why I want to get you back there.

Mr. Chairman: With that we will adjourn.

The committee adjourned at 10:30 o'clock, p.m.

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ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Standing Social
Development Committee
Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Tuesday, June 4, 1974

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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(Daily index of proceedings appears at back of this issue.)

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 1974

The committee met at 8:10 o'clock, p.m.

Mrs. M. Campbell (St. George): Mr. Chairman, before we start I express the desire to put a motion.

Mrs. Campbell moves that this committee sits tomorrow afternoon from the hour of 2 o'clock to the hour of 6 o'clock.

Mrs. Campbell: I put it for the reason that we are only entitled to 75 days and by reason of the fact that the government seems to be determined to try to frustrate the efforts of the opposition to have an adequate time to deal with the estimates; we should not be losing Wednesdays out of our quota of time.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Mr. Chairman, I want to support that. We discussed it over the dinner hour. What is happening is they have moved 13 sets of estimates out of the House, which means that we have reduced the estimates in the House by 130 hours. If we go at the rate we are going in committee, losing every Wednesday on 75 days, it means we are going to lose another 15 days to estimates in committee. So if you consider 13 sets of estimates, you are going to have exactly 60 days.

This is why we asked last week for an interpretation by Mr. Speaker as to whether Wednesday was considered a sitting day. The Clerk of the House has determined that it is, and we would have to agree with the Clerk.

Mr. N. G. Leluk (Humber): Mr. Chairman, there are some select committees meeting tomorrow. The member for Sudbury East is a member of one committee that is meeting, and so am I.

Mr. Martel: I am fully aware, as I am sure you are, that it has been meeting for the last four weeks without a quorum; it will just have to take second place to the estimates and sit some other time.

Mr. Chairman: I am not opposed in any way to ruling on this matter, as to sitting tomorrow or sitting any other Wednesday in respect to the estimates. I think that we have to get the work of the House done. Respect-

fully, I say the estimates committee is expected to sit in conjunction with the House itself. I think this is a criterion that has been set or accepted in some degree by the caucuses.

Mrs. Campbell: But not by the ruling of the Clerk. I don't agree with the ruling either, but if that is the ruling, we are bound by it and we have a duty to get to the estimates.

Mr. Chairman: The Clerk hasn't said that to me, up to the present time. I only suggest to you that with respect to the estimates committee—

Mr. G. E. Smith (Simcoe East): No, but the Speaker made a ruling yesterday that Wednesday is a sessional day.

Mrs. Campbell: That's right.

Mr. G. E. Smith: The Speaker made the ruling, and that's what we have got to follow and that's what this committee has to follow.

Mrs. Campbell: That's right.

Mr. G. E. Smith: And that's what is counted in the 75 days allowed for the estimates that are down here. So, since Wednesday is a sessional day, then this committee has every right to decide by itself whether it sits or not.

Mr. Chairman: That is exactly right and if the Speaker has made that ruling—and I wasn't in the House when the Speaker made that ruling—but if that's the ruling of the Speaker, then quite readily we can sit tomorrow afternoon. I would like to have the Speaker's ruling in writing and be allowed to—

Mr. G. E. Smith: If you will look in Hansard of yesterday, you will find it there.

Mr. Chairman: I haven't got Hansard here. I don't think anyone else has it here.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, I have a motion and—

Mr. Chairman: Right.

Mrs. Campbell: —with respect, I think the motion has to be put.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, Mrs. Campbell has made the motion that we sit tomorrow afternoon from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Is everyone in favour?

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: It's carried. You surprise me, Margaret. I didn't know what you were going to talk about in that motion.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, you didn't think I was going to tell you in advance, did you?

Mr. Chairman: No, I didn't suspect so.

Mrs. Campbell: You might have had more of your members here.

Mr. P. D. Lawlor (Lakeshore): That is a most signal victory.

Mrs. Campbell: That and my amendment to the tax Act.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): You won't get too many members tomorrow.

Mr. Martel: Don't count on it. We had a committee that agreed to meet last Wednesday.

Mr. Lawlor: Oh, no. Don't give them any openings, for Christ's sake.

Mrs. Campbell: There was a majority vote taken. I believe it was unanimous, was it not?

Mr. Chairman: No, it wasn't unanimous.

Mrs. Campbell: It wasn't? Well for the record it was a majority.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Mr. Chairman: The Minister of Community and Social Services, Mr. Brunelle.

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Community and Social Services): Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I have some brief remarks. These opening remarks concern some of the major thrusts my ministry has been pursuing since consideration of our estimates last fall.

As the members are aware, we are in the midst of a reorganization and reorientation of this ministry. This review includes both how our ministry organizes and groups its programmes and the actual programmes delivered.

I'm sure you can appreciate that such a review, to be done well, and to include input from across the province and from a variety of concerned agencies, takes time. All of you have received the reports of our task force on community and social services and the outline of the first stages of implementing some of those recommendations, in the first and second issues of "Access."

I would like to make mention of the great deal of thought and effort devoted to our reorganization by our new deputy minister, Miss Dorothea Crittenden, on my left. As former senior assistant deputy minister, she served as the chairman of the assessment and implementation planning group in our reorganization.

Miss Crittenden, who has the distinction of being the first woman ever appointed to a deputy minister's post by a Canadian government, has, of course, a wealth of experience in social services and the Ontario government.

In order to make our new organization work effectively, we have grouped this ministry into two major areas of focus—programme development and programme delivery, each under the co-ordination of an assistant deputy minister.

The assistant deputy minister of programme development is Mr. Alan Gordon, formerly an assistant deputy in the Ministry of Colleges and Universities. He came where the action is, Mrs. Campbell. This area will focus on the development and integration of policy issues, and the development, co-ordination and evaluation of programmes, including income security, social services, community services and the new area of services for the mentally retarded, transferred to our ministry effective April 1, 1974.

Next to Mr. Gordon is Mr. John Anderson, formerly with this ministry, well known to many of you as former Metropolitan Toronto social services commissioner. He is co-ordinating the second major area as assistant deputy minister of programme delivery. In reorganizing the field, our services will eventually be delivered mainly through district offices and sub-offices in five designated regions of the province.

In order to achieve regional co-ordination and better deployment of scarce programme staff resources, five area executive directors have been appointed, one in northeastern Ontario, one in northwestern Ontario, one in southeastern Ontario, one in southwestern Ontario and one in Metro Toronto.

Since the details of the new structure, and the method by which we will be implementing

it, is explained in "Access 2," I would like to briefly explain some of the major thrusts or directions being pursued by my ministry, apart from its organizational review and implementation.

The provision of adequate levels of support through social assistance continues to be a major thrust of this ministry. You will recall that a wide range of improvements to the income security programmes of this province was successfully introduced over the last year, the most recent of which were effective last Jan. 1 and April 1.

These included larger benefits under family benefits and general welfare assistance; the provision of mandatory drugs for family benefits as of April 1 of this year; the encouragement of the provision of drugs for general welfare assistance recipients through increased comfort allowances for those in institutions.

By extending services in kind—such as broadening the qualifications for assistance under the homemakers and nurses services programme and the day nurseries programme—we have also, in effect, assisted those in need in ways other than financially.

These interim changes, and the significant changes to be made this year under the new GAINS programme—I believe, Mr. Chairman, that the legislation will be introduced this week—for the elderly and disabled, and the Ontario drug programme of premium-free drugs for all needy people, in no way detract from our wholesale commitment to the revamping of the entire income security field.

Although we felt that the situation was so critical that interim steps must be taken pending the outcome of the federal-provincial review, we continue to be most active and committed to overall reform and the development of a more integrated, effective and fair system over a five-year period. We have made several contributions to the review and participated actively on the three working federal-provincial committees, namely income, employment and social services.

A second thrust of this ministry is the development of the most appropriate alternatives in social services for individuals and families. This concern is reflected in a number of programme reorientations over the last year, and in some of our plans for this year.

This past year or so we have taken a very close look at areas where there has been a heavy emphasis on institutional programmes and other traditional programmes to develop alternatives which give people the choice of the most appropriate care, and give com-

munities the choice of the most feasible type of service.

This thrust is reflected in:

The expansion of the homemakers and nurses programme as an alternative to residential care;

The encouragement of alternatives such as use of schools, homes, parent co-operatives, apartments, and office buildings for day care beyond the most often-thought-of-need of a day nursery building;

The expansion of the homes for retarded persons programme to envisage satellite group homes, community residences, apartments and foster homes;

The development of a more flexible method of delivering programmes and utilizing staff and community resources, such as the multi-service worker in Hornpayne, to act as the homes for the aged, Children's Aid Society and municipal social service worker.

The fact that with reorganization we are going to need even more flexibility is reflected in the new grouping of our estimates this year. While still utilizing a programme activity structure for estimates, we have segregated our direct operating expenses and transfer payments into separate votes. This was necessary to provide flexibility and facilitate our ministry's ongoing reorganization.

The third thrust of our ministry developed over the past year, and to be strengthened in the next year, involves those areas which, rather than assisting those in need, are aimed to develop in all people throughout the province a sense of worth and self-fulfillment.

These are the preventive areas that encourage personal community growth, and which must be strengthened over the next few years. It is our concern for the many hours outside employment that have led to our encouragement of pre-retirement education, senior volunteers in service, the development of new ways of looking at voluntarism, the expansion of community centres, and the encouragement of crafts.

The opening of the provincial Welcome House in Toronto to work with newcomers and the continuing programmes of citizenship and Indian community services are involved in this concern that people be involved and have equal access to the services and enjoyment of their community.

This thrust will be further developed this year, as many of you know, through the significant expansion in the field of sports and athletic excellence. We are particularly concerned, as would be expected in a ministry

which includes not only community services but income security, mental retardation services and social services, that those often cut off from community involvement such as the poor, those with a language or cultural barrier, the aged, and the handicapped, share in these programmes.

I have wanted to give you a feel for the major thrust of our ministry over the past year and in the new years to come. The process of reorganization, the implementation of the transfer of the programmes for the mentally retarded, and the development of community services for the retarded and the assessment of our programmes, provincially and federally, make this period a very important and a very changing one, and I hope I have given you, rather than a summary of our major achievements, a feeling for the direction I want this ministry to take. As we proceed through the estimates I will be happy, along with members of staff, to elaborate on any programme or philosophy which the members may wish to discuss.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: Thank you. First, I must say that I regret that I may be longer in my opening remarks than I would otherwise be, because while we have researched our material pretty carefully, due to the fact that we were not prepared for these estimates today I haven't organized my material as I should have liked to have done.

I would like to start with the matter of the family benefits, apart from, for the moment, that portion which is regarded as related to the old disability provisions. I will take a family of two—and these are just examples of the kind of philosophy that I see in this ministry at the present time—with a child under 10 years of age. This is what I am looking at as an example.

According to the Rent Race in this very fine report of the Social Planning Council, the shortfall in the rent provisions, the shelter allowances, in this year will be \$18.52 a month, and the prognosis is that if there is only a five per cent increase in rent in 1975 the shortfall will be \$23.52 a month. As an example of the philosophy which deals with the family, we then analyse those figures.

If you apply the shortfall for this year you find that there will be \$111.48 available for a family of two with a child under 10, for all other needs. That works out to \$1.80 per day per person for food, clothing,

transportation, utilities and any other kind of need.

If you approach the same figures with the information garnered by the visiting Homemakers Association—and, of course, I have to say that my figures relate to the Metropolitan Toronto area, because I wasn't able to get comparable breakdowns elsewhere on the food costs—it would cost the same family \$91.63 for food, which leaves a balance out of that fund for other purposes of \$19.86 a month for clothes, utilities, household supplies and personal needs.

That being the case, I find it again, as I found it last year, notwithstanding some of the programmes which I will come to in a moment, still the kind of ministry and the kind of approach to the problems of people which reflects discredit upon all of us unless we protest this kind of thinking and these kinds of figures.

Now we come to some of the interesting material, as I see it, in the GAINS programme. It is interesting here, as we have seen it, that a married couple, being senior citizens, achieve tax credits of \$368 based upon their income, plus the GAINS provisions, totalling \$5,199.96. A married taxpayer with two children has a tax credit of \$256 on an income of \$5,000. It seems to me we have to look at what we are doing to families as we proceed with this kind of thinking.

I welcome the fact of the GAINS programme insofar as the handicapped are concerned, because certainly they were living at close to starvation unless they put all their money into food and kept nothing for anything else. I would hope that the minister will explain the programme of government which will protect that group from rent increases resulting from the increased income available, because one has to have both programmes to make it effective as I see it.

I would like now to turn some of the material which came out in the report "One Child, One Chance" prepared by the National Welfare Council. I wish to discuss for a moment precisely what that document has to say about the nutrition of our children, particularly its effect on them and on their lives, in the learning process as well as in the health process. They have said in that report that: "In a sense that is less dramatic but no less real, people are starving in Canada". Equally I think, from the figures which I have indicated, that is true in Ontario.

To continue: "Children in particular are suffering the effects of under-nutrition that can reduce their physical and mental development and deprive them of their one chance to develop the full potential of their one life." I think that in itself is a particularly significant statement.

I don't wish to trespass upon the patience of the committee, but if I felt I could I would virtually like to go through point by point what is said in that report. I would say that it is indeed an indictment.

Then we read the newspaper articles which indicate that malnutrition has its effect on women and their child-bearing. If we are only concerned with money, and I keep thinking that is our only concern here, then perhaps we might look at what it costs us to maintain children who have not had a chance prior to birth and who therefore are a cost to the community to maintain after birth. In addition we must face the fact that we are now facing problems in the whole area of the production of food. It seems to me that we had better be looking pretty closely at what we are doing to families.

I read with a great deal of interest—I must say that even by western standards of concentration, and certainly not by eastern standards of concentration—I wasn't able to follow the statement of the Provincial Secretary for Social Development (Mrs. Birch) on the government's day care proposals and I had to ask for a copy. One of the things that I find lacking, again, is an understanding of just what we are talking about in the provision of day care.

While the minister made reference throughout her statement to the desire to make available alternate choices—that was stressed, I would say, in the statement—I cannot follow what is being said as to exactly what she means by alternatives. She makes it clear there is not a desire to build costly new facilities. But she didn't include in the statement any specifics and I would like some assistance from the minister here. Is there any real flexibility in alternatives to institutionalized day care?

I don't see, for instance, any backup for what we discussed last year, and that is the Protestant Homes type of project which took place in East York some years ago. I suppose that it is possible if there are no fees charged and no professionals engaged, and if parents do it themselves, it could come under that phase of the programme outlined by the provincial secretary. But that really isn't solving the problem.

I have read it as carefully as I can, because I do not wish to make a snap judgement on something as important as this; but I would like to know the details. My information is that not too much of the \$15 million is available for current funding.

Mr. Martel: It is \$5 million.

Mrs. Campbell: Is it \$5 million?

Mr. Martel: There's \$10 million for capital.

Mrs. Campbell: As a matter of fact you told me that, but I didn't want to steal your thunder.

Mr. Martel: Go ahead.

Mrs. Campbell: In any event, I presume, if one looks at it, that we are engaged in trying to prepare existing facilities for continuing institutional programmes.

I don't know what your experience is in this area, and I grant you're not asking for provision of kitchen arrangements any more. I'm not too clear about just what the fire provisions will be. I would think, from my experience at the Metropolitan Toronto level, this business of making over old buildings for this use has not been what I would call a great success. Perhaps Mr. Anderson could help us. He's been through the mill on that one.

I don't know what you mean by providing assistance to families. I'm thinking of families which have available \$1.80 per person per day, so I don't know what you are providing in assistance and I hope that I will understand that from the minister's reply or response.

Subject to what the minister may say, what seems to be involved in this programme is production of more facilities with no increase in money. Quite frankly it seems to indicate to me a lowering of the quality.

I don't know whether you are still going to keep that miserable schedule, which is still closing your daycare centres while you are still talking about it. I hope the minister will clarify that aspect of the proposed programme.

I am saddened, too, to note from what I get from the ministry that the GAINS programme as it would relate to a disabled single head of family, for instance, has not been dealt with. Perhaps we will get something on that.

I understand there is to be an elaboration of the statement on GAINS for Thursday. I am not sure about that. I have made some

reference to the tax credit situation and I won't labour it.

Of course the other aspect that I am somewhat concerned about is the matter of the drug benefit programme and its availability to all of the groups to whom reference has been made. I am concerned with the senior citizens who by reason of some other pension availability don't qualify for GIS. Their incomes, of course, in many cases fall short of that proposed in this particular programme. Perhaps this is a gap that can be covered by the minister in his explanation to us.

I had asked the minister on several occasions about the situation as it relates to the services of those groups which had formally been funded by LIP grants, which in my opinion were of tremendous significance in the Metropolitan Toronto community notwithstanding the criticism of them. This, of course, relates to the Metro work group. I am very disappointed, Mr. Chairman, that there has not been clarification as yet, although I have requested it, as to what is happening to that particular group and the work which they are doing.

I think it is interesting that at a meeting held in April of this year there was a statement made, and perhaps we can get some clarification of it, that the Premier (Mr. Davis) had advised Mr. Flynn of Etobicoke that the boroughs should not support information centres. I think, again, somebody has been tricked into accepting a statement made by the provincial secretary that there was overlapping of these services in the Metro area, while in fact all of the studies done have indicated quite the contrary.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, many of these programmes are being phased out or they're now facing cutoff. Yet I don't think it can be denied by any person concerned with the welfare of the people of the province that these services filled gaps which are not yet filled by government.

I would certainly hope there would be some statement from the minister as to the intention. It's very difficult to try to go through the estimates to see if you can pick up some of the services represented by the Metro work group; as indeed it is difficult, in going through, even for the ministry itself to give one a breakdown as to all of the assistance to the physically handicapped.

We had asked questions of the ministry, but we hadn't been able to get answers, I'm advised. I didn't personally ask for the information. However, I am anxious at this point

to know whether we now finally have the information as to whether or not Thistletown comes within this ministry or the Ministry of Health.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The Ministry of Health.

Mrs. Campbell: It does. That wasn't answered following our question in the House. Nobody was quite clear about that. I would also point out that I would like an answer from the minister as to what he is doing to look into the alleged problems of supervision in the Youthdale Homes.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Homes?

Mrs. Campbell: Youthdale. Is that in the Ministry of Health, too? Thank you. As I say, one finds it a little difficult to trace where one goes for information.

Mr. Chairman: We both found that out, Margaret. Very quickly.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes. Are we having any problems now in figuring out for sure about the mentally retarded? They are here? Yes; fine.

I would like to know just what programmes and what the philosophy is with reference to the retarded, now that they have been transferred. I want to know about the funding for these children, particularly as I have not as yet been able to trace it in the estimates. As you know, Mr. Chairman, there's a great deal of concern, from such places as the Cradleship Creche and others, as to the type of subsidy that will be available. I have asked the question generally on the matter of the availability of funds for the poor, and so I will not go into detail in that area.

I think in fairness, since I have been critical, I would like to express my appreciation to the minister for his efforts. I'm still somewhat concerned that the problem has not been resolved in as clear-cut a way as I would like. But certainly I appreciate the fact, Mr. Chairman, that this minister did so wholeheartedly move in the direction of assisting those children who were the victims of tortious acts and who were formerly having their money pretty well taken from them. That is no longer the case. I think I should at least give credit where I think credit is due.

I would hope that somehow that could be made a little more certain and a little less open to change. Perhaps we could enshrine it in some way into legislation, rather than leaving it to the reporting of the official guardian. I would feel happier about that

situation. But it certainly is a major improvement over what was happening before last year.

I am not going to comment on the matter of the sports programme or the native peoples programme or any of those others, because I will have something to say about them in the vote. But generally my thrust this year is my concern for the family in this total scene.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you, Mrs. Campbell. I know the minister will be pleased with the commendation you passed his way in respect of certain aspects of undertakings he had in the past year or so. I understand Mr. Martel is the spokesman for the NDP.

Mr. Martel: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is a relatively short time—seven or eight months—since we last considered these estimates. There have been a few positive measures, there have been a few negative measures; and mostly a lot of things left undone.

The restructuring of the ministry is probably the most significant thing to happen in a long time. However, when the minister spoke tonight I thought he would indicate a number of things with respect to the restructuring.

It looks good in this document, but it doesn't tell us anything, Mr. Minister.

Mrs. Campbell: You have got the blues in the front.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Isn't that a nice colour?

Mr. Martel: It tells us we've got some executive directors and so on, but what are your powers? What type of budget have you given to the executive directors that they can work with as opposed to coming to Queen's Park all the time? If you are talking about decentralization they have to have money to work with. It seems to me you might have indicated that you were giving up some of the power that Queen's Park holds over the province, and in fact are going to place some reliance in your regional directors, or your executive directors, so they can plan for the needs of specific areas.

I read most of your information, and I might say it is pretty sparse, what comes from this department. It is one of the major complaints I have. Very little comes out of this ministry. I've never understood a ministry that has a number of ongoing projects that remains so secretive. It seems to me you should be willing to let that material out to the community to advise and to inform and

to mould attitudes with respect to people. But that is never forthcoming; and neither is any information on what you intend to do with your executive directors or how much power they should have.

How much autonomy will they be given? That has to be answered. Have you even drawn up guidelines for them, or are they just figureheads sitting out there, with really very little power and simply coming back to Queen's Park for the stamp of approval? How will the lines of communication be improved?

It is one thing to have a new direction, but as was noted by the Hanson task force, if the lines of communications are not greatly improved then you have achieved nothing.

More important, will the staff size be increased in your ministry? I will document it in a little while, but an ongoing theme I have had over the last while—it is my third year as critic—is that you don't have the staff to deliver the services in this province. It is a common statement by your own field workers, if you speak to them, that if they are going to try to give individual attention to a client they have to go back at night and do it on their own time. Most of them have such a heavy caseload, that going in to find out if they need some money is about the sum total of assistance you can provide.

That is one of the reasons I spent 3½ hours not long ago belittling your colleague, the think piece, on her statements with respect to the emerging services in Metro Toronto. She has been paving the way for the government to say no for a long time, I am absolutely convinced that if those groups go down the drain this province is going to be in a state of chaos.

Again, I am not going to repeat that speech at this time, although I will come back to it in the various items, when we discuss community involvement, to indicate that you will not be able to cope unless you do one of two things; unless you increase your staff by two or three times, or unless you start to fund at least the nucleus or the full-time workers in the LIP organizations. You don't have to call them LIP if you don't want to do so; you can call them whatever you want.

Mrs. Campbell: LIP is a nasty word.

Mr. Martel: Unless you fund the permanent staff there, then as they disappear one by one you are simply not going to be able to cope with it. I will put some figures

on the record a little later on which indicate just how bad the situation is, not only in Metro Toronto but through the northern affairs offices in northern Ontario, through the various information centres that I have had dealings with, that indicate that the number of calls they take and handle on your behalf is astronomical.

If it ever falls to you four-square, you are simply not going to be able to do it, because you can't do what you have now. I think any one of your case workers who is not afraid to indicate what the problems are will indicate they simply can't help the client beyond their monetary needs. Even that isn't sufficient. To watch this go down the drain without some indication that you are going to increase your staff indicates to me that we are heading for trouble.

I will return to the Hanson task force later on, particularly the fifth volume.

I am not all that taken in by the fifth report, particularly that section dealing with Children's Aid Societies. If the ministry ever follows those recommendations we are going to have a grab-bag the likes of which you will never see again. I recall that you will allow some of the Children's Aid Societies to operate as is and some to be operated independently. I think he suggests the same thing with respect to municipal welfare offices; some should go by the board, some should be operated by the ministry and some by regional government.

We've got confusion now. Heaven forbid that you follow those two recommendations of the Hanson task force. You are in deep trouble; not only yourself and your staff, but more important the recipients. They have problems as it is, so I suggest that you scrap that one. I'll have more to say about that one later on too.

Those were the good points. I want to get to the increase in benefits.

Mr. Chairman: Be a little more friendly.

Mr. Martel: I didn't take very long for those.

Seriously, Mr. Minister, I spent a lot of time trying to figure out what it is about this ministry that makes it tick. As I'll say later on, it's money; the desperate shortage of money has created a need for rules and regulations and exceptions and you name it. That's the only way your system can work, because it's so hamstrung for money that you put up all of these artificial barriers. You can't do anything across the board, because you are hamstrung for money constantly.

That's the only way you can turn this guy down; this year you turn the next project down the following year for some foolish reason—it's because of the shortage of money.

I think I understand your problem. Of course, you've got to deal with Treasury Board and they are a problem. I am told the former deputy minister left because Treasury Board turned him down too often. You might say no—you shake your head, Mr. Minister—but my information is different.

Let's look at it though. Over the last couple of years we've had a variety of increases in benefits and there's not one increase that was across the board, or really honest, in the statements presented to the House by the minister.

Starting about a year ago, we had a catch-up programme. It did not put them ahead of the game, or on an even footing with the real increase in living costs. It was a catch-up programme, because there hadn't been a raise in three years. Somewhere along the way you excluded 25 per cent of those people who hadn't had a raise in three years. You managed, with mathematical gymnastics—call it what you want—to exclude 25 per cent of the people who were not given a raise the first time around.

Then we had another raise last September—five per cent across the board. It looked good on paper, but it wasn't five per cent across the board. It was only five per cent of FBA or GWA—of what they were paying if somebody was getting some compensation or Canada Pension. The five per cent didn't include the whole budgetary need, only five per cent of the portion your ministry paid.

That's the sort of thing that bothers me with this ministry. It's almost sick, with that sort of penny-pinching manoeuvring that's needed. The types of statements that come out are so cautiously worded, because you know that there are loopholes in it that you can't fill.

I am told that your latest one—the one you announced, I guess it was in December, when you gave all the nice figures, Mr. Minister; I have it here. You've spelled out what the families were going to get; and you know it was a beautiful job. You must pay a thick piece over there for doing some of this. You calculated it all and you said: "Ah ha, they've got a 32 per cent increase."

I'll give you an example. A permanently unemployed man, married, with three dependent children aged eight, 12 and 15, who received \$333 in December 1972 will now receive \$440, an increase of 32 per cent.

That's wonderful. That included, of course, the raise of the year before. That included the September raise. That included the increase in the baby bonus. When one takes it apart to see what the ministry's increase is, it's damned small. But when one looks at 32 per cent, they say: "Gee whiz. People are getting a tremendous increase." But they're not. You go way back and calculate it all in.

If you are only going to give four per cent, say it. But you're ashamed of it. I don't blame you. I wouldn't admit it either, if I was sitting in your seat, having to give such minuscule amounts. I'd try everything I could to make it look good at least. None of your colleagues is going to question it, so you're safe there. The public doesn't question it, because they look at a 33 per cent or 32 per cent increase and say it looks great. The only trouble is that it is never calculated on the basis of the actual cost of living for people on welfare or fixed incomes.

When we talk about the increased cost of living, we're talking about the average. Do we ever look at how it affects the person on fixed income? The housing study done by Metro Toronto indicated that the increase represented five per cent or 10 per cent for the average. But when we looked at it for the fixed income group, those who didn't get an increase, the cost-of-living increase was 20 per cent or 25 per cent of their income. It makes a big difference.

The minister never makes his increases to those people who are on fixed incomes based on the effects on them. It's always on the average cost-of-living increase across country. But it bears no resemblance to what that increase is for those people on fixed incomes—and it's unfair.

Then you come out with the next one: "A single disabled person who received \$130 a year ago under FBA will receive a monthly income of \$170, a 30.8 per cent increase." That's nice. I'm delighted. That's the one move that's going to be of some real benefit, the GAINS programme for the handicapped.

In the GAINS programme for the senior citizen, you again exclude the most deprived group of all, those aged 60 to 64, who are much worse off than senior citizens.

You're not supposed to say it, and I'm not saying the senior citizen gets enough. But those in the 60- to 64-year-old group, who can't go back to work and can't get a job in a time of high unemployment, are much more deprived than senior citizens.

A couple in that age bracket is probably drawing, before the GAINS programme, at

least \$150 month less than the senior citizens do now, before the GAINS programme. There is no possibility of them going back to work. The majority of them will not be employed. What have we got? High unemployment. You're not going to find jobs for this group. So there's a group that's left out.

I don't want it to come out in the press as though I'm saying the senior citizen doesn't need more. He's not getting enough. I'm not arguing that point. I'm saying there's a group that is even worse off, if that's possible, and that's the group aged from 60 to 64.

Barrett had a little more *savoir faire* than you people. He gave it to that group. He recognized the need. Being a social worker himself, I guess he didn't have too much trouble convincing cabinet out there that that group needed it as well. So they're enjoying \$217 a month, and I understand last week there was another increase in BC. I haven't got the figures, but I understand there was another upward increase because Barrett realized that that group from 60 to 64 is facing the same problems as people from 65 on. They're doing it with a lot less money than Ontario. I just don't understand it.

You go on in your statement with the same malarkey, Mr. Minister. It's a deliberate attempt to hide what's really going on. Your colleagues read on the next one that it's a 30 per cent increase, following one of 24 per cent, and another one is 18 per cent. A fourth example is 30 per cent.

We're not talking about the province's contribution at all. We're taking in the previous raises, and we're taking in the family allowance increases. The majority of the money really came from the family allowances. They exceeded any raise that was given to a family where there were children involved.

Your announcements disturb me, Mr. Minister. I'll give you an example of the things that disturb me. In a family of three, where the mother received \$177 before, she is going to get \$202. If you take five per cent off in September, it was \$8.85; so her actual increase by the ministry was \$16.15. Fifty cents a day, by the ministry. By the ministry. The same three children, of course, got a \$36 increase from the federal government. It looks good. It looks good until you start to take it apart, Mr. Minister. And that's what bothers me, you've always got to take it apart to find out just what's going on. The minister, of course, said that he wouldn't use the baby bonuses to calculate the increases. Well, I don't believe it. I think you did.

Let me give you an example. If you look at the new rate as opposed to the old rate,

Mr. Minister, for a family of, let's say, three children all under age nine, their increase was \$31. But if one was over nine and two were under nine, their increase was only \$30. If two of them were over nine and one of them under nine, the increase was, in fact, only \$26. Invariably, as the children got older, the amount allocated to the family from FBA was in fact less.

That can only be accounted for, in my opinion—and maybe you can correct me if I'm wrong—by including the baby bonus. Otherwise you would have given them the same increase across the board. In fact, it would have been just the opposite. One would suspect that the increase would be greater as the children get older. I have four children and my experience is that as my kids get older the costs get greater. But in your increases under the new schedule effective Jan. 1, 1974, it increased less as the kids got older. That really helps kids, doesn't it? Maybe I'm wrong, but I'm absolutely convinced, despite all of your protestations last fall, that you, in fact, used the baby bonus to calculate the increases.

I'm also worried, Mr. Minister—I'm talking about the things you didn't do—about what happened to the escalator clause? I have a list of the questions you were supposed to answer last fall, numbering about 30, which I will bring up one at a time. I never got answers. You promised me answers for them.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: You're referring to indexing?

Mr. Martel: No, no. The 30 or 35 questions that you promised to give me answers to during the estimates.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: But when you say an escalator clause?

Mr. Martel: Oh, yes, I'll come to the escalator clause, right. I just twigged that you had promised me about 35 answers. There was a variety of questions you were going to answer—one of them was on the escalator clause—and I have never received those answers. We'll go at them one at a time when we come to them under the appropriate vote. But what has happened to the escalator clause?

I am intrigued by this government. It goes to Ottawa and this minister suggests to the federal ministry that they should put escalator clauses in the Canada Pension, and escalator clauses here, there and everywhere. I've read your brief. Where you're responsible, though, nothing. The government of

Ontario is responsible for Workmen's Compensation pensions, but it doesn't put an escalator clause there. You're responsible for FBA, and you don't put an escalator clause there. But you go down to Ottawa and you argue like mad that there should be an escalator clause in the Canada Pension. If that's your philosophy, why don't you do it in Ontario? You can't go around telling somebody else he should do something if you're not willing to do it yourself.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Are you against that we suggested this to Ottawa?

Mr. Martel: Not at all. Not a bit. Delighted it's in there too. Delighted that Ottawa saw fit to do it. Disappointed though that Ontario would argue like mad for it.

Mr. Haggerty: He has a hard time, Elie, convincing Management Board. That is the problem.

Mr. Martel: Yes, disappointed that you wouldn't put it in your own ministry since you were the one who advocated it when you represented the government of Ontario in Ottawa. Why don't you follow your own advice?

Mrs. Campbell: It costs them money.

Mr. Martel: Yes. You know I always find that strange. Well, maybe the minister can tell—

Mr. G. E. Smith: It is not popular politically.

Mr. Martel: —when we can because he said he wanted an escalator clause in, eight months ago.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: My feelings are still the same.

Mr. Martel: Still the same? Have you made any headway with Management Board?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Some.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): That is a tough job.

Mr. Martel: Some? Well, trying to move those people! In a statement, Mr. Minister, you said the following:

A VARIABLE ALLOWANCE FOR EACH DEPENDENT CHILD

With the new schedule the allowance will vary according to the age of the child, the allowance being higher for an older child.

That was in your statement in December some time. I just quoted where they went down, using the previous figures and calculating them against the raise. And as the kids get older, the amount you increased the ordinary needs by, actually went down.

Now how does that statement you made in the Legislature fit into what has happened in the increases, which is just the reverse? Again, maybe I don't understand it very well. But that's your statement; I'm quoting from you. I'm looking at your ordinary needs. As the kids get older, the increase from before went down—for the older kids. Now, maybe you can explain that bit of gymnastics to me. I don't understand it.

What happens beyond six children? Again, when I look at the ordinary needs under your old schedule, Mr. Minister, you had the ordinary needs for children up to six children in a family. And again, going back to your statement with the new schedule, the allowances will vary according to the age of the child; the allowance being higher for an older child. Well, you've only got it for three kids now, in the new ordinary needs. You had it for six in the old regulations.

Interesting set of figures there because under the old schedule for the seventh child, over 16 years of age, there would have been an allowance of \$45. Under the new schedule, which only goes up to three children, the amount of ordinary need for a child of 16 is only \$42. And my mathematics says that is \$3 less. The second child, 10 to 15, is \$38; under the new schedule, \$35. Again, unless my mathematics is wrong, it comes to three bucks.

Now, where is the catch? I guess what I want to know is what happens to the seventh child? How much does he get now, if there is a seventh child? Would he get the same \$45 as he did under the old ordinary needs in the regulations that were replaced by the January 1, 1974 regulations? What happens to that seventh child? Does he get \$45 or does he get \$43 or \$42? Or doesn't he get anything? Or she? Does she get anything?

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): He gets the \$20 from Ottawa.

Mr. Martel: The \$20 from Ottawa; I suspect that is it.

As I say, I am no mathematician. I just see all of these foolish statements. As I said, I am really delighted to see the gains, Mr.

Minister. It boils down to about \$30 per month of assistance.

Of course, there is no doubt about it, you've followed that great province called BC which is leading in projects and programmes that are exciting, and is at least trying something. Ontario has a real faculty for playing follow the leader in this field. I know of—

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): The member for St. George agrees with you.

Mr. Martel: Pardon?

Mr. Stokes: The member for St. George agrees with you.

Mr. Martel: Right. I can't recall this ministry coming out with something new and imaginative on its own. Castonguay led in Quebec; it was Barrett in BC and Blakeney and people out in Saskatchewan. When do you take the lead, in that we are the richest province in Canada?

Maybe Miss Crittenden can bail you out. And it is going to take some bailing out, because I haven't seen much in the form of imaginative programmes or anything that leads. You're a year and a half behind BC, and Saskatchewan has a programme, which I will come to later on, to subsidize working poor families and encourage them to continue to work. I will detail that at some length when we get to it.

You don't have anything. You are going to wait until Ottawa and the various provinces get together and come to some agreement. I am told the earliest date possible for any programme is about 4½ years; and you'll sit on the fence for the 4½ years and never take the lead in anything. Never.

But we'll show you what they are doing for the working poor in Saskatchewan. BC too are having some problems because Ottawa reneged on their programme for the working poor. They won't put in the funding that was supposed to be forthcoming. When Barrett was outfoxing them on some of the Canada Assistance programmes and they found out what he was after, they had fits in Ottawa, because he knew the programme better than them; they were giving too much away. They moved back in a rather disconcerting manner, but he managed to get some of it, which made it possible for Ontario to get some too. You know, you have to give Barrett credit for the fact that you can introduce a GAINS programme today and get the funding from Ottawa.

I encouraged you two years ago this summer, Mr. Minister. When Barrett indicated he was going to Ottawa to talk to the Prime Minister, I said, "Why don't you do the same thing?" No, you would wait. Everything was on Lalonde's paper and you were working toward it. You won't introduce anything new, will you, except if you can get some federal funding.

Drugs for 65 years and over hopefully will cover not only FBA but GWA. It just seems to me it has got to be a must.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As of Sept. 1.

Mr. Martel: For GWA as well, thank goodness; because in the Sudbury area we have a policy—and I am going to have more to say about him later too. In fact, I was surprised; I got a letter from Miss Crittenden today, telling me about Mr. Schoak and the board in Sudbury for FBA recipients. It said that if the FBA recipient—in this case it was a single man—had more than a month's general welfare allowance in the bank, then they wouldn't give him any special assistance for dentures.

Your legislation says that man is entitled to have \$1,000 in the bank, but the municipality says, "Oh no, we are not going to give him special assistance, even for dentures, because he has got \$800 in the bank; that's more than a month's general welfare allowance, so we are not going to help him." Then what is the sense of having your legislation that says a man can have just under \$1,000 in the bank? That is the sort of problem we dealt with.

Another thing I want to know about is the up-to-date handbook. You know, I finally got it on the weekend from a field worker of yours, Mr. Minister. Are the people getting the new one, that rather sickly looking colour that it is? When did you mail them out?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We thought of blue, but then we thought we would be accused of—

Mr. Martel: Well, why didn't you get them green?

Mrs. Campbell: Everything else is blue.

Mr. Martel: It's a terrible colour. When were they last mailed out to recipients?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: What is the date on that?

Mr. Martel: Oh, this is an old one. Borczak was the deputy minister on this one. There might be one subsequent to that, but I'm

talking about the latest handbook. When did you get that, Margaret? Where did you steal it?

Mrs. Campbell: I don't know when I got it, but it is dated March, 1974.

Miss D. Crittenden (Deputy Minister): Two months ago.

Mr. Martel: Two months ago. I managed to get my hands on one on the weekend.

Mr. Haggerty: That is a different colour, Elie.

Miss Crittenden: You have got the new one?

Mr. Martel: Yes, I have the new one—not here—but I have a new one. Are the recipients getting them?

Mrs. P. Jacobsen (Director, Communications): Yes, they are getting them through the district offices and a number of welfare rights groups. We automatically mail new copies to welfare rights groups.

Mr. Martel: You might consider mailing them to the members of the Legislature.

Mr. Haggerty: Aren't you on the mailing list?

Mr. Martel: No, I am not on the mailing list. I get nothing sent to me.

Mr. Haggerty: I thought you were on the list.

Mr. Martel: I want to discuss a couple of reports on immigrant services that I mentioned last year.

Mr. H. C. Parrott (Oxford): Elie, our salaries come under a different vote.

Mr. Stokes: You have got to get your info through the back door.

Mr. Martel: Right, I have a couple of reports on immigrants we will talk about a little later on; I want to know what you have done with them. I got that info via the back door.

Mr. Parrott: You can't talk about our salaries in this vote.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, at the same time, where is that great annual report you always put out?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Our estimates are too early.

Miss Crittenden: It is at the printers now.

Mr. Martel: It is at the printers now; it will be a big asset to us.

Miss Crittenden: Yes, but the estimates are a little too early.

Mr. Martel: As I say, it will be a big help to the members to look at that after the estimates are over. It will always help, Patrick.

Mr. Lawlor: You can argue two sets at once.

Mr. Martel: That was some of the good—not that much good, Mr. Minister. Now for some of the bad: I think the loss of Tom Eberley to this province is a disaster; I really do. Some people might not agree with me, but I'm absolutely convinced that had he been able to crack Management Board, this ministry would have been a lot better off.

One of the most surprising moves, of course, Mr. Minister, was your cancellation of the guaranteed income programme.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That was the best move we ever made.

Mr. Martel: Oh, right. You want to believe it. You flogged that thing to death for three years in your interest. You've got more press and publicity on that than anything else; you had \$500,000 in the budget for three years running, and you didn't spend a cent.

What have you got to take its place? I remember saying just a few months ago that Ontario never takes the lead in anything. Well, you tell me what you've got to take its place. You see, you don't have anything.

Let me read just from the Manitoba one; they have one that they are not scared to—well, go ahead, Miss Crittenden; have your say.

An hon. member: Hold on.

Mr. Martel: But there are some interesting statements in this, one by the hon. Marc Lalonde, who says:

An overall guaranteed income programme for the whole population that is worthy of consideration is one that offers a substantial level of benefit to people who are normally in the labour market. Therefore, a great deal of further study and investigation, like the experiments now under way in New Jersey and Seattle in

the United States, is needed to find out what effects such a programme would have on people's motivation, on their incentives to work and save. Until these questions are answered, the fear of its impact on productivity will be the main deterrent to the introduction of a general overall guaranteed income plan.

Ontario will never know what's going to happen; they won't introduce anything. It is easy to say, "It's the best thing we ever did," as long as you've got something to take its place. What have you got to take its place?

The white paper then suggested a research strategy to answer these basic questions. The federal government hopes that in collaboration with some of the provincial governments, it will be possible to carry out studies on this and other important questions related to the application of the guaranteed income approach.

The Senate committee, sometimes called the Croll committee, made the following statement in 1970:

The provision of guaranteed annual income to all Canadians is more than an anti-poverty measure. It is an ideal whose time has come. If properly designed, implemented and operated, such a plan will restore to decency and dignity those Canadians who, through no fault of their own, have been stigmatized and demeaned because they are unable to earn an income adequate for themselves and their families.

That's really what we are talking about in this ministry, isn't it? This is why this should be the most interesting ministry of government. It's a challenging ministry; it's the ministry that can do most for the people who are most deprived—and it doesn't do it.

As one field worker said to me the other day, "The problem in Ontario, is that this ministry is a mop-up organization." It goes in after all the damage is done and it mops up the debris—some of it with a little hand-out in terms of dollars and cents; none of it in prevention, or very little. And for what should be a challenging ministry, returning to people their self-respect, their dignity, and getting them established in the community, you have no programmes to do it. Totally none.

It still continues to be—as I said last year—a pay wicket. And even the pay wicket doesn't pay a sufficient amount to assist people. It keeps them below the poverty

level. It keeps them in a state of degradation. The whole thing. There was nothing that I saw when the minister read his statement a while ago. I think he was looking at his ministry through rose-coloured glasses. I really do.

It's interesting, Mr. Minister, that you say you are happy. You throw it out. Well, Manitoba is trying something at least. They are trying. They are also worried about the effects it might have—I have read the report—or what it might do to get people to separate and so on, and will it encourage them to leave one another and so on. They are trying to work out a system. That's more than we are doing.

And that's what bothers me in this ministry. There is nothing imaginative about it. There is nothing that is new. It follows the other provinces constantly. If there was just some spark. You've got the staff to do it. That's the unfortunate part. I think you've got the people who have the capabilities of making an imaginative programme. Maybe the problem, of course, rests with Treasury Board, the people who don't want to finance it.

Maybe the minister could give us a reason later on as to why you threw it out. I know one of the things you are going to say—it didn't work in New Jersey. Well, anything that tricky Dick touched couldn't work. If he said it was good, then throw it out.

This is the Manitoba plan. I'd like to see your copy, at least, of the work you did; the study you put into it to see if it would work. Have you got one of those available for me?

Miss Crittenden: You will have to ask research branch for a copy.

Mr. Martel: We have to ask research. I didn't have any problem getting this one, none at all. I'd like to see, I'd like to compare what you have and why you threw it out to at least what Manitoba looked at. As I say, they at least looked at it. Not so Ontario. They looked at it and got great publicity for three years, misled people in Ottawa into doing a lot of work, and then canned it.

Of course, not when the House was in session either. The minister announced that when the House wasn't in session. He might have got a little flak.

Another thing that disturbs me, Mr. Minister, and which is disappointing to me, is your announcement involves the five-point programme you announced last fall—I'm talking about special assistance. In your statement, you said:

In addition, the former limit of \$20 placed on supplementary aid will be removed and the municipality may grant any amount of supplementary aid. This will mean that all items, including drugs that were formerly granted as special assistance at 50 per cent subsidy to municipalities can now be granted to family benefit recipients as supplementary aid. So that the municipality will be subsidized 80 per cent.

Maybe the minister could tell me the difference between supplementary aid and special assistance. My digging around has indicated to me, for example, that Cornwall has passed a resolution saying it will not pay any special assistance. I know that in the Sudbury area, whenever a recipient of FBA goes for special assistance, he's automatically turned down. Part of it is the board. The board has decreed special assistance will not be paid.

Mr. Haggerty: That is at the regional level.

Mr. Martel: That is at the regional level. Their argument is that the province has the responsibility to pay 30 per cent. I said to the chairman of the social welfare board, or whatever they call it, if he wanted to fight the minister in Queen's Park why did he do it through the recipients? If you insist that Queen's Park pays 30 per cent, what you do is you lobby all the municipal welfare agencies in the province by way of a resolution, asking them all to support you, asking that Queen's Park pay 30 per cent for special assistance.

I told him he was not hurting Queen's Park one bit by refusing to pay special assistance. He was hurting the recipients. I couldn't get it through to him.

They were taking on special assistance. It is a kind of a perverse way of doing it, to penalize the clients and allow the ministry to go scot free and never attack the ministry. One of the reasons I don't like provincial appointees on various welfare boards is they invariably turn out to be Tory hacks who aren't going to allow the government to be attacked.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Don't you agree with him, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: No possible way.

Mr. Martel: They invariably make sure the ministry is sheltered from any criticism. Is that the way to attack special assistance? I am told Cornwall will not pay one red cent. The Sudbury region does not want to pay

special assistance. Although you have come out with this nice statement that it can go via supplementary aid, in fact the general welfare officers as a whole aren't doing it.

In Sudbury they don't tell the people on welfare they are entitled to a new bed. They go to the general welfare office and they ask for a new bed and he immediately sends them to the Salvation Army. What is your announcement? They can spend up to \$500 per town.

The minister knows that I got a letter from him today on four such cases. They went out and bought the furniture without telling the welfare officer.

That is what he tells you. But why doesn't he tell them? Shouldn't there be an onus on those people to advise the clients they can get help? The usual cases are not told. They go out and order it. They can't make the payment and they come back and say: "Look, I can't make the payment." He says: "Well, you didn't come to me first."

That goes on every day, and not just in Sudbury. It is all based on this phoney argument between supplementary aid and special assistance. Wipe one of them out, Mr. Minister. If your statement means what you want it to mean, then you don't need special assistance. The municipality can get 50 per cent. If not, explain to me the difference between supplementary aid and special assistance so that I understand it.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Thirty per cent. That is the difference.

Mr. Martel: That is the difference; but the minister says a 50 per cent subsidy to the municipality can now be granted to family benefit recipients as supplementary aid so that the municipality will be subsidized 80 per cent.

Again, I don't understand it. I don't understand the need for supplementary aid and special assistance. I don't think you need the two categories. If that means what it means, then any welfare director in this province worthy of the name should be taking in all of those clients who need help, pushing it through the supplementary aid route, getting the 30 per cent funding from the province and the 50 per cent from Ottawa, and the municipality only paying 20 per cent.

But that is not happening. If that was your intention it is not happening. As I say, the fact is that certain municipal welfare boards across this province have decided not to pay. That is one of the things I agree with in

the Hanson task force report. I am pretty picky about what I support. And under income maintenance, they spell out the anomalies in special assistance. For example, why should an FBA recipient have to go to the general welfare officer for special assistance or supplementary aid? It's ridiculous. Why do they have to deal with two different agencies?

Mr. Minister, that's just some of the bad. I come now to the other part—the inability to deliver. I am getting there, Mr. Minister. In the meantime, you will just have to bear with me.

I don't see anything in your announcement, Mr. Minister, which indicates that you are able to deliver services any better than you were eight months ago, despite your decentralization. Your northern affairs offices, Mr. Minister, in their latest reports for March, 1974, indicated that in northern Ontario for the month of March there were 25 legal aid problems; 38 community and social services general; 371 income security; 42 social services; 267 community services; 174 sports and recreation; and Children's Aid Society is 196.

We are only talking about 26 small offices. These are complaints just with respect to your ministry—or inquiries, call them what you want.

I didn't pick out anything on senior citizens, because on this form they have nothing on it that deals with them and the problems they might have had. I can only go by what's on this report.

The second one, for February, indicates people who had to contact the northern affairs section of the Ministry of Natural Resources: community and social services, general 45; income security 381; social services 82; community services 251; sports and recreation 357; Children's Aid Societies 160; Youth Secretariat 9; Solicitor General—you know, pensions and allowances—1,263. I am sure some of them were FBA cheques that didn't come; general welfare cheques that didn't come. That's just northern affairs.

The information centre in Sudbury has given me a fairly careful analysis of their inquiries per month. Sudbury and the regional government has only got 150,000 people. And for 1972, when they were just getting established, they had a total number of 4,088 inquiries. By and large, most of them dealt with your ministry.

What are you going to do, Mr. Minister, when that dies? A total of 4,088; that's the

first year of operation. The next full year was 1973-13,401. Where are you going to get the staff to handle these inquiries and resolve the problems of these groups? And there are five full-time people in that information office.

Are you going to increase the telephone switchboard for Mr. Belanger's office? Are you going to increase his staff by 10 or 12 or 15? Aside from the five full-time workers, that information centre has a full host of volunteer workers.

How much staff do you think it would take to handle 13,401 enquiries? Because you have to recall at the same time there are people already going to your ministry in Sudbury; and the staff is overtaxed as it is. They can't handle it now they tell me. They simply take the applications, go back and get them processed and make sure the cheques get to the people. But beyond that, any type of individual attention, any type of service to the people, is wanting; because they don't have the time to do it. And if they did do it, it would be on their own time at night, or on Saturdays and Sundays.

I just want to know what the minister intends to do when the roof caves in, as these groups collapse around the province—whether they be information centres, whether they be multi-service centres, whether they be any of the groups that I spelled out in a rather lengthy speech, most of which the minister listened to.

What is the minister going to do? What is he going to do for immigration services? His ministry is committed, I think, to \$100 a year permanent funding to immigrant services. My friend, the hon. member for Humber and I spent a couple of days in Montreal. We hear all the things about what Quebec is doing, yet they managed, in Montreal city alone, and the member for Humber can verify this, to give \$750,000 a year to immigrant services. The total permanent funding for this province is \$100.

Toronto today must be close to one-third ethnic. Am I right about one-third of Toronto which must be of ethnic origin; and not fourth- and fifth-generation? Mr. Minister, you don't have to answer. I have the figures—I'll put them on the record—which indicate that the vast majority are under 39 years of age. If the minister doesn't start to do something, the problems are going to be insurmountable. I don't mean problems in a derogatory sense, but problems that the ethnic community faces in trying to reorient itself in a totally new environment. We give them a lousy \$100 a year permanent funding.

What intrigues me about this ministry and this government is that the various government agencies are sending all kinds of groups—those coming out of prison are given cards to go over to one of the volunteer agencies. When they're let out of Vanier, they're given a card to contact a Metro work group where they can get assistance.

Isn't that ironic? His ministry won't fund them. If they need interpreter services in the courts they run down and try and find someone. If they need interpreter services, as they do frequently in the hospitals—off to one of the volunteer agencies.

If one looks at multi-service centres, which cut through the red tape; if one looks at the volunteer agencies that work with senior citizens in an effort to keep them in their homes—I have some good material on senior citizens for later on that does not come from Ontario. Manitoba last year spent \$4 million to upgrade homes, to repaint them and so forth for the senior citizens, in an effort to keep them in their own homes. I'm told the cost for every bed for a senior citizen in an institution is roughly worth \$20,000 a year—the real cost. That's \$10,000 at minimum wage. That's 10,000 manhours of assistance per person that we could give.

Break it down mathematically. One looks at the budget and sees \$48 million for institutions for senior citizens. If you couple what the ministry spends for senior citizens outside of institutions you get about \$1.5 million, maybe \$200,000 more—it's minuscule. You're spending 48 times as much to keep people in institutions as you are to keep them out.

The province might reorient its priorities, as I said last year, and start to work to keep people out. Manitoba started and we'll outline some of those programmes as we go on. Again it's obvious to me you are losing much as you cut back on the various volunteer groups—they take them to the hospitals, they take them to doctors, and they take them shopping; all these things are necessary. As I say, if you calculate the cost of one bed at \$20,000 a year, just imagine that. I'll quote where I got the figure, so that you won't be too sceptical, when we get under senior citizens. It is \$20,000, which is 10,000 manhours. Imagine that.

Mr. B. Newman: There aren't that many in a year though.

Mr. Martel: No, that's right.

Mr. B. Newman: There are 8,736.

Mr. Martel: Yes. You could be keeping people out of the institutions, except those who are totally disabled, by using that money. You'd have to have the back-up service. But you are not funding backup services; you are watching them disintegrate because you are not going to fund them. How much did you say that you would provide under that great announcement by the Provincial Secretary for Social Development? It was \$900,000 or some ridiculous figure for community centres for senior citizens. I think that was the figure. I'll have it when we come to the vote, I didn't bother bringing it with me.

All you are going to do is see a mad scramble for that little bit of money; and then another mad scramble next year once you've got them established to try to keep them operating. It was a great announcement though.

You've got immigrants you do nothing for. I understand there is a statement about information centres, coming some time in June. Is that right?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That's right, this month; any time now.

Mr. Martel: We are looking forward to that one. As for multi-service centres, I'm hopeful they'll get one in Sudbury.

I might say we've met with Dr. Williams. That's one of the reasons I want to know what kind of autonomy he has and what type of budget he has, so that we know what he can do in providing or helping to establish a multi-service centre for the area.

With that group I guess it's like everything else, for example, your guaranteed income plan. You'll sit around and sit around and sit around.

Mrs. Campbell: Let them die.

Mr. Martel: If they have problems we can always turn to a study, as the minister was wont to do last year. Everytime we talked about income, he pointed his finger at the orange paper and the ongoing study. The recipients can't eat the orange paper.

Mrs. Campbell: They may have to.

Mr. Martel: It gives them indigestion. It is the ink in the orange paper that gets them. There's not too much in the form of nutritional value in an orange paper.

I understand BC established community resource boards which are elected by the public. It is one thing to decentralize, and as

I said earlier we want to know what the budget is going to be and how much autonomy, but you can decentralize and be up in Sudbury or up in Kenora and still not be decentralized in the sense that you're into the community. If you are going to operate it from another white, ivory tower in Sudbury or London, then you are no better off than operating it from an ivory tower here in Queen's Park.

We don't have any mechanism to mesh with the community. BC is moving to do that.

They have established I understand now, community resource boards. People will be elected to these boards by the public. They'll be provided with a budget; and the aim is to deliver the services to people. Ontario falls far short of that and I think is falling further behind. The only thing that has kept you out of trouble these last two or three years by and large, have been the LIP-funded organizations. They have really kept you out of trouble. I'm absolutely convinced of that. Maybe you might consider a community resource board.

We like to play follow the leader in Ontario. We don't take any initiatives, but there is an idea of making sure that we have decentralized. I say that for one reason. I think there are a great multitude of volunteer services available. I think there are people who are willing to help in the community, but we have to have a means of drawing that together.

Mr. Parrott: That is what I said last year.

Mr. Martel: If you said that, Harry, I am wrong.

Mr. Parrott: That is right. I am amazed to hear you say it. I just can't believe—

Mr. Martel: No, no. I suggested last year—and I am still suggesting—that these people are funded, whether they be volunteer agencies where you keep the nucleus, as I said last year.

I suggested to the minister recently in a private discussion that if he is going to make an announcement on information centres, then he must establish some sort of criteria based on numbers. We simply can't allow every organization that comes along to start its own information centre. We base it on a certain number of permanently-funded people based on so many per capita population. In all the voluntary groups, if there were a mechanism for the ongoing planning and so on that is

necessary, I think it would be a valuable investment.

I am not saying the sky is the limit on the number of people involved. I think we have to call on the voluntary people in the community as we have in Sudbury. We have doctors, lawyers, teachers, credit councillors on the board; a whole range of people.

But you have to have a permanent nucleus there. Otherwise it collapses eventually. I hope my friend the member for Oxford hears that. You have to have funds for the permanent nucleus. Whether it be four or five for an area the size of Sudbury, I don't know. I don't know the answer, but it has to be something.

BC has tried this avenue. We have it too, probably, out there, if we simply bring it all together. I think David Kowal's studies have indicated there is no duplication, that the services are tremendously valuable.

You don't want them to go beyond something that we can cope with financially. We draft the guidelines and base it on so many population. Whether it is an information centre, multi-service centre, an immigration centre; it is there.

They have made theirs elective. They have funded them. We have done nothing except promise. I have never seen a group so misled as that Metro work group. You should be ashamed of yourselves. It has been over a year of leading those people along.

They are magnificent people too. And they have been misled; starting with Bob Welch, to you, to the Premier, to Margaret Birch. It is appalling what you have done. They go out there at \$85 a week doing the job for you; with no vacation pay, no sick leave.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Have you ever consulted your colleagues in BC and Manitoba about LIP programmes?

Mr. Martel: About their programmes?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: About their ideas regarding LIP programmes. Have you asked your colleagues in BC, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Mr. Martel: No.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: You should.

Mr. Martel: Why?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: You would find that a consensus across Canada—

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, they are doing something else. You just watch it disappear. BC is trying to put something in its place by establishing community resource boards which are elected and funded to do the job in the community. What are you doing? One can throw his hands up in the air and say BC doesn't like it and Ontario doesn't like it. What are you doing to guarantee continuity? That is what I am after and have been for some time.

What do you do when they collapse, Mr. Minister? Do you hire the staff? Are you in a position to go out and hire 5,000 or 1,000 more staff tomorrow? That is all I want to know. I don't think you are; and I want to know who is going to handle it. I want to know who is going to pick up the services that are out there now to ensure that people who need services, whether they be immigrants who need translation service, or senior citizens who have to be taken to a hospital or a doctor or something. Who is going to pick it up? You tell me how it is going to be done.

Maybe you can satisfy me that you have a plan to make sure that now you have decentralized from Queen's Park your new offices are going to permeate into the community like they never have before; that they are not going to be some white edifice where people are almost petrified to go; and where most of them, when they leave them, feel stigmatized.

I might say that it certainly isn't nearly as bad on FBA as it is on general welfare. I want to give the ministry credit for that. General welfare has to be the most degrading experience people could ever undergo. It is totally demoralizing. It is dehumanizing. It is just everything that is wrong. A little later I am going to suggest that we take it over completely. I don't think the municipalities should handle it. Maybe Metro Toronto is big enough, but I am absolutely convinced there is only one way we are going to ensure an even distribution of services across this province for the needy, and that's through Queen's Park handling it all. Decentralize your offices, but I don't think general welfare should be handled by the municipality any more.

I've had it, dealing with general welfare officers and administrators who don't have adequate staff and who don't have professional people. Metro Toronto can do it; they have the resources to work with. I still think it is unfair for Metro Toronto to have to pick up the tab in this type of complex society where people come in from Nova

Scotia, Newfoundland and other provinces to try to find work here and end up on the welfare rolls in Metro Toronto. I don't think the Toronto resident is responsible for paying taxes to support people on welfare who come from other provinces.

I think that is a provincial responsibility because the province gets the money from the federal government, or 50 per cent of it anyway. I am absolutely convinced that that must be taken out of the hands of the municipal people; it must be taken away from the municipal taxpayer. I will have a good deal more to say about that, as we indicate what other provinces are doing in that field.

Finally, Mr. Minister, I would like you to tell me if you have anything in mind with respect to establishing community resource boards or anything that will be similar to those established in BC, under legislation which will deliver the services which we have to offer in a way which we haven't even come close to delivering in the past. I don't think you can sit there—and you are going to try, I am sure—and defend the ability of this province to deliver its services. It simply has never been able to do so. I await the minister's reply.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I will do my best to try to reply to the comments of the hon. members for St. George and Sudbury East. I would like to mention, first, that there are five main votes in the estimates. The first vote is vote 2601, ministry administration programmes and this encompasses all the salaries of staff.

The second vote, vote 2602, is the big vote, covering about half of the estimates. It includes income maintenance programmes, GAINS, assistance under the Family Benefits Act, general welfare assistance and so forth.

The third vote, 2603, is a social and institutional programme—capital, operating and other grants—and this includes of course the services for the senior citizens, the homes for the aged, Elderly Persons' Centres Act, children's services and so forth, as well as the vocational rehabilitation.

Vote 2604 is the community services programme. This is the one for citizenship grants, and sports and recreation bureau. The last vote, Mr. Chairman, is vote 2605, and that is the mental retardation programme, which has been transferred from Health to our ministry.

Mr. Martel: May I ask the minister who in God's name drew up the estimates this

year for you? If it hadn't been for Miss Crittenden I would have been lost. Mr. Minister, it was a disaster. It was a disaster area. When I looked at those estimates for the first time I just thought somebody had gone off the deep end, really. You couldn't make head or tail out of that if you tried, and the deputy minister—

Mrs. Campbell: It was the man who was leaving. The one you said was such a loss to the province.

Mr. Martel: It was unreal. The minister doesn't want to answer. I hope you answer it, because somebody should be taken to task for preparing this.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Really, though, once you get into it it is fairly—

Mr. Martel: Well, we will take away from you, Mr. Minister, the little book entitled "Locator" and you follow along under the estimates programme as laid down in the estimates book. Okay? How would you like to do that?

Mrs. Campbell: Oh, come on, don't be mean.

Mr. F. Drea (Scarborough Centre): He was born mean.

Mr. Martel: I couldn't follow it, Frank.

Mr. Drea: I could follow it.

Mr. Martel: No you couldn't.

Mr. Drea: Don't tell me what I can do and what I can't do.

Mr. Martel: I am telling you you couldn't.

Mr. Drea: I am not in the habit of taking advice from you now and I never have been. I can follow it.

Mr. Martel: The deputy minister tells me that she has 25 years in the ministry and she had difficulty understanding what was going on. Maybe you know the ministry better than the deputy minister. I suspect you don't, though.

Mr. Drea: You are clearly impressed with the comments of a hillbilly. Go ahead, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Martel: Ignore the new parliamentary assistant.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: A very good appointment.

Mr. Drea: Make it "Mister," friend.

Mr. Martel: Mr. what?

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Drea.

Mr. Martel: Pardon me.

Mr. Lawlor: Don't get off the track.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, referring to Mrs. Campbell's comments, we agree that there is certainly need for more assistance to families on social assistance, those under the Family Benefits Act. You referred to the GAINS programme and so did Mr. Martel. I think we are all in agreement that the GAINS programme is a good programme to give assistance to the elderly and the physically handicapped and there is no doubt that there are many families today, single parent families and others, who have difficulty, especially in Metro—you referred to Metro, and it is quite true—where often maybe as much as 50 per cent of their assistance goes for shelter, and of course shelter, as has been mentioned many times, is a very important part of the social component.

Mrs. Campbell: Certainly in this climate it is.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That's right. And although some assistance was given for those with children—not our assistance, the Family Benefits Allowance on Jan. 1, which was \$20, and then there was some additional assistance in the tax credits in the last budget—there was no major assistance given to that category and we have this in mind. Certainly it's a matter that has been before us and the whole area in view of rising costs of inflation affecting all groups. It is one that is before us and has been submitted to Management Board.

You referred to today's daycare announcement. Well, I find both you and the hon. member for Sudbury East, at times, a little hard to understand. You criticize us for not assisting, for not taking initiative. You mention the Metro work groups. As you know, many of the grants given to the Metro work groups were given for various programmes—assistance for the elderly, assistance for daycare centres and so forth. To me, the announcement made today would be of great assistance to a lot of those daycare centres, to groups who had been funded for LIP. This is one of the main thrusts of this programme.

Mr. Martel: But \$10 million is going to capital, Rene.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Up to \$15 million. About half of that amount will be for capital and the other part will be probably about \$2 million or so for the handicapped, and the rest for children in families that are low wage earners. The flexibility is one of the main policies of this. It is to help provide more assistance to those in need.

You were referring to the alternatives. Well, as was mentioned in the statement today, instead of building—for instance, there's no doubt when it comes to handicapped. As you know, the assistance for handicapped was 80 per cent for capital construction for the mentally retarded. But there was really not too much assistance for the physically retarded. We hope to be funding the handicapped, and when we use the word "handicapped," we like to use the word to include both the physically and the mentally retarded. And we hope for capital construction to be able to fund that 100 per cent.

Also, as mentioned in the statement today, regarding use of existing premises, vacant classrooms, church basements and so forth, let's utilize these facilities. And this again is referring to the LIP grants. They did this. They used basements of churches. Last year I officiated at one not too far from here. And without lowering the quality or relaxing some of the regulations, as was mentioned in the statement today.

Mr. Martel: That's going to be questionable.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Pardon?

Mr. Martel: That one's going to be questionable. The allowing of, what is it, two to four year olds 14 or 15 per person?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: You're referring to the ratio, the staff?

Mr. Martel: Yes, right, ratio.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, you know, in the statement it says, "up to," so that's up to 14 or 15 per cent.

Mr. Martel: Right. It's always up to that.

Mr. B. Newman: Always a maximum amount.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: When the regulations are implemented, we will consult the various associations. So, we can assure you that we certainly don't want to do anything that would take away from the present quality. But the main thing is flexibility. The main thrust of this statement today is to help, on

a priority basis, the handicapped, the natives and parent low-wage earners.

Mr. Martel: You don't announce how.

Mrs. Campbell: That's right. How are you doing it?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, this was a policy statement.

Mr. Martel: Okay, that's why I didn't mention it because I want to wait for—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: On the third vote we will be discussing services for children. On the third vote.

Mr. Martel: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The GAINS programme will be introduced in the House this week. And by the time that we come to it we should be able to give you more information.

Drug benefit programme, you referred to it. As you know it took effect. It's compulsory for recipients of the Family Benefits Act as of April 1 and to the general welfare recipients after Sept. 1. And it will be under the Ministry of Health.

The member for St. George referred to the Metro work group. As I just indicated, there is substantial assistance for day nurseries. We have also indicated additional assistance for the elderly. We will be funding information centres. I indicated in the House, our policy will be made known this month.

We have been funding the information centre in your area for quite some time; it's a very good one. But I think we all agree that there have to be criteria. There have to be guidelines on order to overcome duplication.

Mr. Martel: No one agrees with you more on that, Mr. Minister. I think the first study on that was in 1962. I could be wrong, but I think it was in 1962.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Minister, on that point—I just want to make it clear. As I understood the policy secretary's statement, it said that in Metropolitan Toronto there was an overlapping which indicated to me that she felt that there should be information services in Sudbury and in some of these places, but not that kind of funding in Metro Toronto. Now, if that is going to come in your statement, I'll be delighted, certainly.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, I believe—

Mrs. Campbell: But the trouble is that these statements are made, Mr. Chairman,

and the how of them—the way they work—is not in the statement. So I don't understand it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: But the statement did refer to using more parents, more volunteers—

Mrs. Campbell: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: —and involving the community, the community involvement—

Mrs. Campbell: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: —and this is our aim.

Mrs. Campbell: And letting parents, as long as there is no fee and no trained person—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That's right.

Mrs. Campbell: —do their own thing. That's fine. However, you are going to explain this when we come to it?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, when we come to the children's services bureau.

You referred to information centres. Well, I think we've just spoken about that.

On the mentally retarded, Mr. Chairman before the members leave we could give them a copy of the new mental retardation programme. This booklet just came out. This explains our programme. That whole very important area is the last vote and I would prefer we could discuss it at that time.

Mr. Martel referred to many, many matters. And he referred to our reorganization. Well, you know, this isn't—

Mr. Martel: If you want to discuss it under the main vote on that, Mr. Minister, that's good. There are some direct questions I want to ask you on that section if you want to refer to it later on. I raised about five major questions on it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Okay, fine maybe when we come directly to the vote—

Mr. Martel: When we come to administration, yes.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Again the member referred to an increase in staff—that if we do away with the voluntary groups who are providing valuable services, we will need more staff. We are in agreement with the information centres and many others who do provide important services.

Inadequate assistance to recipients of social assistance, especially those between the ages of 60 and 65:—

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, as you know, the women are eligible at the age of 60 under the Family Benefits Act. Maybe the day has arrived in this day of equality that we should—

Mr. Martel: Well, the problem is, Mr. Minister, let's take a couple between 60 and 64. The husband can't work, and they will get maybe \$225 or \$230 from you, total. Under the Canada Pension they get about \$379. But you are going to increase it and we appreciate that. I don't want anyone to get the impression I don't think they deserve it. I think they do. That group, 60 to 64—most of them can never get back to the labour force—is there permanently. And they are already getting \$150 less than somebody over 65. And the group over 65 are going to get the benefit of the GAINS Plan, which we think is necessary.

That group is there for a whole host of reasons—they were out of the pension age; pensions weren't good at the time; or they had no pensions. As my colleague, the member for Riverdale (Mr. Renwick), makes a point in the House, that group is a diminishing group as more pensions came into the plants and so on. But we have got a group of people 60 to 64 who now get \$150 less than senior citizens. And it is going to be that much greater. They are probably the most deprived group in society today.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, Mr. Chairman, I would say when we come to that vote, it's an important area. Mr. Glen Heagle is the executive director of our income security review; and of course, Miss Crittenden. Mr. Gordon, Mr. Anderson—

Mr. Haggerty: You promised us an announcement last year on this particular subject.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Between 60 and 65?

Mr. Haggerty: Lower than that, 55 to 65, in that grey area.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: If you look up Hansard I think you are referring mainly to ladies. I remember, there was a question of women who were only eligible at the age of 60, single and married women whose children are grown up so they are no longer eligible. I think it was mainly women. However, I can stand to be corrected.

Mrs. Campbell: May I ask one question for clarification? A great many of the people in my riding falling in that category, I assume would benefit under this GAINS programme

as disabled under the disability aspects of FBA. Is that not so?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Just as a rough guess, is it about 30,000?

Mr. G. Heagle (Executive Director, Income Security): There are 31,000 permanently disabled and blind.

Mrs. Campbell: Where?

Mr. Heagle: On the existing caseload.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Who are presently recipients under FBA.

Mrs. Campbell: For the whole province?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We only have about 90,000 FBA cases.

Mrs. Campbell: I thought I had about 31,000 in the riding of St. George!

Mr. Drea: No, 30,620.

Mr. Parrott: Those are repeaters—not all new ones!

Mrs. Campbell: I hope there is not going to be a mixup in the way that is administered.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Martel said that as children get older they get less. I should mention what Mr. Heagle and others are trying to do, they are trying to rationalize the programmes as much as possible. I am going to tell you there is a lot of inequity. They are trying to rationalize the programmes, but if I read the graph correctly, from ages zero to nine years of age, it's \$30; 10 to 15 years of age, \$35; and 16 years of age, \$42.

Mr. Martel: Wait a minute, it is not that simple. If I read last year's regulations, previous to this set that came out on Jan. 1, 1974, I look in the first column and I compare the increases—let's talk about two children, if you want, both under the age of nine. In fact, the increase was \$28; one over the age of nine and one under the age of nine, the increase was only \$27; and both over the age of nine, the increase was only \$23 per family. My mathematics indicates to me that that is going the other way—as the children get older in fact they are not getting as much of an increase.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I would say this to the hon. member, I know either tomorrow or next day we will certainly get to this.

With reference to what I said last year, I still feel the same, when you call this an escalator clause I think the word is indexing. The federal government is now indexing the old age pensions, the guaranteed income supplement, the Canada Pension Plan, and maybe others, and several of the provinces are too, and it is causing a real problem. So far as our ministry is concerned we are in support of indexing.

Mr. Martel: Are you people considering, Mr. Minister, the effect of inflation, not as it affects the average citizen, because that is what it is based on—

Mr. Haggerty: It is causing him problems too.

Mr. Martel: —it is causing him problems too—but as it affects the person on a fixed income, a Family Benefits Assistance recipient. The effects are much more severe on him. You talk about the average increase in the cost of living on commodities, but people in a certain income group, particularly on a fixed income, don't spend their money in the same way. Their housing is higher and a greater chunk of their budget goes for food. Are we doing any of that? We have got research people. Surely they must be—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, our people are looking at the—

Mr. Martel: —looking at the effects, not as it affects people across Canada but how it affects FBA recipients? The inflation to them must be much higher than 10 or 11 per cent. It must be 20 per cent.

Mrs. Campbell: It is, in fact, in some cases 30 per cent.

Mr. Martel: And we are not giving increases based on that figure. We are giving increases, if we give them at all, that are equivalent to the increased cost of living, but we are not gearing it to what the effects are

on that group, because they are hit much harder. They don't spend money on boats and cars and so on, as the rest of us do.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would like to end up, Mr. Chairman—and we will pursue this, Mr. Martel—on the guaranteed annual income experiment. I do think that it was a very wise move on our part.

Mr. Martel: What have you got to take its place?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: BC has decided not to go ahead with it. When we were in Manitoba at a federal-provincial conference and we were speaking to a senior official he asked my deputy and me: "How did you do it?" You should find out how successful their experiment has been so far and they have been at it now for two months.

Why did we discard it? The cost. It would have cost somewhere between \$5 million and \$10 million. It would have taken at least five years to find out things that we already know. What are we doing to replace it? We are working very closely with the federal government in an income security review.

Mr. Martel: That's four years away.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No, no. We are doing things. We amended the General Welfare Act last fall. Mr. Anderson, who is here, can tell you that Metro has an experiment in the supplementation of wages for low-income earners. Peterborough are considering this. These are positive things that are being done and there are many other things that are being done.

Mr. Martel: You enlighten me tomorrow, all right?

Mr. Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Minister. We meet tomorrow afternoon from 2 o'clock to 6 o'clock.

The committee adjourned at 10:30 o'clock, p.m.

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ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Standing Social
Development Committee

Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton



OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION

Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Wednesday, June 5, 1974

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter

Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1974

The committee met at 2:10 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

(continued)

Mr. Chairman: Now that we have a quorum we'll get the committee under way. Last evening when we finished, the minister was—

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): Starting to reply.

Mr. Chairman: —making a few remarks. Would the minister like to pursue where he left off last night?

Mr. Martel: Let the minister finish. I would appreciate hearing the minister. He left off at BC or some place like that.

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Community and Social Services): That's a good place to leave off.

Mr. Martel: I can't think of a better place.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, I was asked just before this meeting commenced about the GAINS programme. I know there is a lot of interest in this programme. I would suggest that we discuss it under the main vote, which will be the second vote. As I indicated yesterday, legislation will be introduced, probably this week, on GAINS. I think it would be more appropriate if we could wait for the second vote. At the same time, we are prepared to discuss it now but we would prefer to wait on the second vote. With reference to the question of children's services, daycare centres and so forth, again hopefully, we would prefer to discuss it on the third vote.

With reference to Mr. Martel's question, I would be pleased to continue with some of my remarks. I also would like to add that in order to obtain more complete information a lot of these matters could be discussed under individual items and votes. The member for Sudbury East referred to the lack of openness and the secrecy in our ministry. I

take the opposite view. I think that we do try to provide as much information as possible. We have about 180 publications. These are available to our regional offices. They are made available to the various agencies.

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville): Are they available to politicians during elections?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: They are available to politicians at any time.

Mr. B. Newman: I just asked, that is all, because I noted back in my area, all of a sudden, the Conservative candidate's office was flooded with information. No one else seemed to be able to get it but you people had it in your offices.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I would say to the hon. member that whatever government information we have available is available to everyone, regardless of party affiliation.

Mr. J. R. Smith (Hamilton Mountain): Mr. Chairman, I would just like to say that one of the few complaints I have about the ministry is the lack of reply in the follow-up of inquiries to the regional offices from the member. Sometimes we get a reply and other times we don't. They are of a routine nature asking for a field worker to visit Mrs. Brown or somebody on East 24th St. about possible eligibility for a widow's pension or something. Sometimes we get a response and are notified of the results of the action taken. Other times we don't get a response. I know you have a very heavy workload. If it went through your office to the attention of Miss Crittenden, there is always a very good follow-up.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I concur with the suggestion of the member last night. For instance, when we do have revised publications, or any publication, we should make them available to members.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, I was talking in terms of not just the publications you put out but, in fact, the research that's going on. I just don't want to come here throwing

mud. That's easy to do. Anyone can sit in committee and be critical. What I attempt to do over the year between estimates is to find out from other areas what is going on in this field and try to push the government to implement that. It seems to me we have to know what studies Ontario's involved in so that we can probe and ask why the ministry is not moving ahead with certain studies. I'll indicate this when we get to vote 1. That's what I was particularly referring to. I don't think it behooves a critic to come here and simply be critical without offering alternatives. You've got to be in a position to know what is going on in various studies that are available to provide valid, constructive criticism.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Also, with regard to this question of openness raised by the member, as the hon. member is aware, when we reorganized our ministry over a year ago we held 20 meetings throughout various parts of the province. At those meetings, we invited the local member, the various agencies, such as Children's Aid, and so forth. In North Bay we invited the members, federal and provincial.

Mr. R. S. Smith (Nipissing): I wasn't invited.

Mrs. M. Campbell (St. George): I wasn't invited to anything.

Mr. Martel: Not the members.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: You were not a member at that time, Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: Oh.

Mr. Martel: I was.

Mrs. Campbell: Just before March.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I was a member at the time when your meeting was held at Pine-wood Park, where most of your meetings are held in North Bay because of the political affiliation.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: And you were not invited?

Mr. R. S. Smith: I was not invited to that meeting, and none of the members in north eastern Ontario was invited, excluding yourself, of course.

Miss D. Crittenden (Deputy Minister): May I speak about that?

Mr. R. S. Smith: I am just correcting the minister's statement, that's all.

Miss Crittenden: North Bay was the second meeting. When we started the first meeting in Oakville we had only our own staff. It was very apparent to us that we should include a much wider group of people who were involved in the delivery of social services. The second meeting was in North Bay and we invited the Children's Aid Society, the municipal welfare department and the Nipissing district welfare board, a public health nurse, and any agency that was delivering services. We did not invite any members. As the meeting progressed, members became aware that we were holding them and we, of course, were delighted if they would come. The original meetings started with our own staff and they continued to grow as more people wanted to have input to them. If we return for another meeting of a similar nature in North Bay or Sudbury, of course you'll be invited. But at that time we didn't know that the members would be interested in that kind of a meeting, and it wasn't meant that anyone be overlooked.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I don't quarrel with that. I just wanted to correct the minister because he was wrong.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, surely. Well, again, it is certainly our intention to invite you, because these are open meetings. I say open in the sense that we try to obtain a list of all those who would be interested, the various agencies and so forth.

I'd also like to mention, for instance, about our policy, take our mental retardation programme; there have been over 200 meetings so far by our personnel going to various parts of Ontario to meet with the local associations of the mentally retarded to explain our policy, to explain our goals, and to get their views. These meetings are being very successful. So, what I am saying, Mr. Chairman, is that we do try as much as possible to involve others. I would say that our ministry is one of the ministries that gets the most involved. Also, as far as our door being open, as far as my offices, the deputy's or any, our doors are always open.

Mr. Martel: All I wanted were reports from you—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Pardon?

Mr. Martel: What I would like from your ministry, Mr. Minister, is to be included in the various studies that go on. I will illustrate some of them; they are in your blue book. I'd just like to receive copies of them so that I can, in fact, read them.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: You are referring to the research studies?

Mr. Martel: Research studies and so on, so we can know what's going on. It's rather imperative to know, to make, as I say, constructive criticism. There is no sense being here just to try to be obstructive. I don't consider that my role here.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, fine. We'd be very pleased to include the names of all the members.

Mr. Martel: I can get obstructive if I want, but it depends on who I am battling with.

Mrs. Campbell: Not necessarily so.

Mr. R. S. Smith: On this question of openness, if you are going to discuss that for a minute, I don't know what it means. It can mean a lot of different things to a lot of different people, I suppose.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, it can be open—

Mr. R. S. Smith: But there is one thing that I question, and that is the fact that there is an availability of the people who are on the roll of the FBA programme.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Availability of the FBA programme.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes. Is this given to anybody or what?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Information, you mean, on family benefits?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Certainly. Any person—

Miss Crittenden: No, no.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Wait a minute, though—

Miss Crittenden: The names and addresses, he means.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, that's right.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The names and addresses of those who are on FBA?

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, that's right.

Miss Crittenden: No.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No, no. And I do not think that it would be advisable that we should provide this.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I fully agree that it shouldn't be provided, but in the past I have reason to believe that it has been provided.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, it depends to whom. If it's a government agency, we do try to co-operate. There is very good co-operation between Manpower and other agencies.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes.

Miss Crittenden: But we never give out lists with names. Those are never given out.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Such as to municipalities who ask for a list of people in their municipality who are receiving FBA benefits?

Miss Crittenden: No, that is never given out. The only time—

Mr. R. S. Smith: To the mayor of that municipality? That would not be provided so that he would have that list?

Miss Crittenden: No, no. If they have ever had it it has certainly been a list that some person has collected unknown to the administration. It is not given out, any more than the names of people who adopt children are given out. That's confidential.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, I agree that it should be confidential. I have reason to believe that at some point in time it wasn't confidential. That is not lately. This was some time ago. When letters are sent to all those on family benefits in a certain area, from political candidates, for example, then they must be getting that list from some place.

Miss Crittenden: Those lists have never been available.

Mr. R. S. Smith: They are divided up into whether they are getting mother's allowance, or something else, and they get a different letter—well, then, the lists are coming from—

Mrs. Campbell: Somebody.

Mr. R. S. Smith: —because he doesn't manufacture them out of his head.

Miss Crittenden: I think if that ever happened we would want you to bring it to our attention; we would need to know that. They are not—

Interjections by hon. members.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, the member referred last night to supplementary aid and special assistance. I do not know whether you wish to deal with this now, or on the appropriate vote.

Mr. Martel: I didn't deal with it, I just put that in, Mr. Minister. Because, as I say,

I object to a municipality using the clients as the whipping boy in order to get the province—particularly where FBA is concerned—to pay the 30 per cent special assistance. I suggest to you that one of them should be wiped out.

I don't really understand the distinction clearly between supplementary aid and special assistance. I just think the province has the responsibility of contributing the 30 per cent. And there is only one way that is going to occur, and that is if you wipe out special assistance.

But to use the recipients as the focal point for battling with Queen's Park, really, it just boggles the mind that a municipality would do that. Of course, it is in the Hanson task force pointing out the anomalies in the special assistance and the fact that people have to go to both—and I am hoping that something will be done by the province to alleviate that.

Your statement said you can get 80 per cent. Okay, then, where does it differ? Why keep special assistance in if you are going to fund the municipalities 30 per cent for supplementary aid?

Mrs. Campbell: You don't fund them for many of these things in supplementary aid—that's the whole thing. They do it on their own, but the province is inclined to take credit for the programme, which is a purely federal-municipal programme.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: First, Mr. Chairman, we are working to a more integrated approach. But, as you know, there is the difference. The supplementary aid is given mainly to recipients under the Family Benefits Act—old age pensioners, those receiving vocational aid. The special assistance is given mainly to those receiving aid under the General Welfare Assistance Act.

We are working into an integrated approach. As you know, drugs, it's compulsory now to give it to everyone. Well, to all FBA at April 1; to GWA at September 1—to everyone. And, as time goes on, we hope to include dentures, and so forth—other benefits. It could well come under OHIP. This would be the ideal way, that it is OHIP—but this will take time.

Mr. Martel: My concern, though, Mr. Minister, and again it is partially a matter of knowledge, is that the recipients don't know what's available for, let's say, an FBA to repair a home; or that they can at least have an old bed thrown out and a new one purchased. It is there. It is there at the dis-

cretion of the municipal welfare officer. You get somebody on FBA who has to go over to the GWA officer to see if they can get assistance.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It is under the district welfare boards, Mr. Chairman, and also under the county and others—so it is integrated.

Mr. Martel: Well, it is not. Somebody on FBA who is getting FBA from the province has to go to GWA to get special assistance or supplementary aid.

Mrs. Campbell: That's right.

Mr. Martel: That means yet another layer of government involvement. They are not dealing with one agency now, they are dealing with two agencies.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Under the district welfare board, Mr. Chairman, under the county administration, they go to one.

Mr. Martel: No, no.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: They go to one for both special and—

Mr. Martel: Yes, right. They go to one for both of them but, if they are on FBA they have to go to general welfare. All of the forms and everything are with FBA, with your department; but they have to go to the municipal welfare officer to try to get supplementary or special assistance.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It seems you have read the Hanson task force. The idea is to integrate the two—and this is in the process of being done.

Mr. Martel: And you should wipe one out.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We could go on for quite some time on this item, Mr. Chairman, but I do think that maybe we could reserve this. I am sure that a lot of members from the other side would like to express their views. Coming back to Mr. Martel, he referred to many items. I'm not sure which ones I've left out.

Mr. Martel: Everything after supplementary aid.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As to inability to deliver services in our reorganization, the whole thrust of our reorganization is to provide for the better delivery of services as indicated. I know the hon. member has read the literature, "Access," and the latest one here. It's mentioned in here. It will take a little time to bring this about. The whole thrust in the

decentralization is to provide more authority to the field officers who are working closely with the local government. This is the whole thrust of the delivery of services.

Mr. Martel: You still missed the point, Mr. Minister, that you don't have the staff.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Oh, we have a very good staff.

Mr. Martel: They are excellent people and I'm not criticizing their ability.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: They are working with local government. Now, we have different views on local government. I don't have to tell the hon. members that this is a big province and very diversified. In northern Ontario, for instance, and maybe in eastern Ontario, there isn't the sophistication in governments as there is in, say Metro or in Kitchener-Waterloo or in other areas where they've integrated the health and the social services together.

This has to be done, keeping in mind the conditions in the various areas. This is the whole aim of our reorganization and of decentralization into 20 districts and our giving the district offices under a district director more authority to deal with family benefits, vocational rehabilitation services, recreation and all the services that Community and Social Services administer in conjunction with the municipal government and also in conjunction with the local agencies.

You refer to BC and to their elected boards, but this is something that they've just established and we do think from experience we will find that our system will work well.

As a matter of philosophy, Mr. Chairman, the hon. member referred to—

Mr. R. S. Smith: It is not a matter of philosophy really.

Mr. Martel: It is a matter of staff.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Do you not believe in local government, in decentralization, that instead of decisions being made at Queen's Park we should decentralize and leave the local people in their own area, who know their own local conditions best to make the decisions?

Mr. R. S. Smith: That depends a lot on the area. There are areas in this province where decisions made on GWA, for example, are just horrendous. Those areas aren't being well served. They never have been and they never will be under the present system.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: In all of Ontario there are only six counties that are not under a county welfare administration. In northern Ontario, to my knowledge, all northeastern Ontario is under district administration. There are a few areas in northwestern Ontario that aren't. We were up there last weekend, and they've indicated in the Keewatin and Kenora area that they want an area welfare board. In Red Lake they want an area welfare board and we said they could. It is a matter of time when the whole province will be more integrated on the district, county, regional or local welfare areas.

Mr. R. Haggerty (Welland South): How much of that would be overlapping of services? Let's take, for example, the Niagara region, where they have a regional welfare administrator sitting there and then you have your own administrator there working through your office, Mr. Desiri, under the province. You have two offices right next door to one another almost doing the same type, providing the same type of a programme for the persons who are in need. One comes under the Family Benefits Act and the other comes under municipal welfare.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Haggerty, there is quite a difference in the clientele that's served. Mr. Anderson might mention it. He has been administering at the municipal level and now he's responsible for the provincial administration. But there is not that kind of overlapping in practice.

Mr. Haggerty: In one you are dealing with those persons who are disabled. As for the other ones, some are unfortunate enough that they can't obtain a seasonal job working on a seasonal basis or are seeking employment. Others who are caught in the many programmes that we have say they are caught because they can't get compensation when they should get it. They can't collect unemployment insurance. They have a waiting period of anything from two to six weeks or eight weeks; and those persons apply for welfare assistance at the regional office. They are assisted, but you almost have two bodies there doing the same thing.

Miss Crittenden: No.

Mr. Haggerty: One works with those persons with disabilities. That's the only difference.

Miss Crittenden: There is a difference in their responsibility. I'll leave it to you, Mr. Anderson.

Mr. J. G. Anderson (Assistant Deputy Minister, Delivery): There is a clear-cut difference in their responsibilities under the legislation right now inasmuch as one is administering the General Welfare Assistance Act.

As Mr. Brunelle has said, it is just a question of the philosophy which is going to be developed. Are we going to do what is suggested in the Hanson task force report and give even more responsibility to the municipalities and possibly pull back some of our direct delivery systems or are we going to take them further into the provincial system? Comparisons have been made between Ontario and British Columbia, and again the tendency there has possibly been to decentralize more to the very local level, in certain areas.

Mr. Martel: Sure, but in Ontario the problem is dealing with people who are on general welfare boards. By and large they are made up of local councillors who have been elected; they serve on the welfare board; they serve maybe on another board and serve on the full council. They cannot devote that much time to the activities of the welfare board.

In the Sudbury region they don't even have a secretary. It's almost an ad hoc committee which meets now and then. In fact, they simply don't have the time because they are employed elsewhere during the day and only devote part of their time to it because they might be on yet another committee.

I'm talking about regional councils.

They serve on their local council and they serve on the regional council. The time they have to devote to the delivery of services is really hampered.

Mr. R. S. Smith: When can we talk on the home for the aged boards?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That will be under the homes for the aged vote.

Mr. Martel: If we look at a regional government setup now you have maybe the mayor and the deputy mayor sitting on a committee and at the same time serving on the local council with a local responsibility to that council. Maybe they are on sewer and water—not sewer and water; let's say they are involved in one aspect of, maybe road maintenance.

In the local council, they serve as councillor and they serve on a committee in the local council. Then they also serve on the regional

council and in the regional council they might be on a committee.

So you've got these people—without any staff available to them, they don't even have a secretary—and they work full-time as well. Now you tell me how in God's name they can devote the time—

Mr. Haggerty: There are a lot of welfare recipients who would like to go back to that system.

Mr. Martel: Right. I'm not being critical of them. I think they try hard. I'm just asking how in God's name can they serve on the local council, the regional council, work full-time and devote sufficient time to ensure the delivery of services? They are not full-time councillors, they are only part-time; and they make up your regional welfare board. They don't know what's going on.

I'm not running them down. The people who are on it in Sudbury, I know them well. There's a doctor; there's a teacher at Cambrian College. I know every one of them and they simply don't have the time.

It's one of my concerns because it's almost like the way the small school boards used to be. The director of welfare in the area is in a position similar to that of the secretary treasurer of the former small school boards. He was it; they considered him to be "Mr. Board" and anything he said was proper. The same thing applies in the welfare field. Whatever the administrator indicates to the board is necessary becomes a reality because the board members simply can't devote the time necessary to ensure that services are being delivered.

I am not trying to say that general welfare should come under the province. I don't think it should be centralized. That is why I want to talk about the authority at great length on the first vote.

I am convinced that one can decentralize, provided that the criteria laid down for the administrator give him the authority to plan the needs for his area, and that he has competent backup staff, both locally, regionally and from Queen's Park, to ensure that the delivery of services is the same across the province.

Mr. H. C. Parrott (Oxford): You are talking out of both sides of your mouth, Elie.

Mr. Martel: Why?

Mr. Parrott: You are talking out of both sides of your mouth, Elie.

Mr. Martel: I am not a Tory.

Mr. Parrott: That is fortunate. But you are talking out of both sides of your mouth.

Mr. Martel: Tell me why—slowly; I am a slow learner.

Mr. Parrott: At one time you are talking about the need to decentralize and the next time you are saying to put it in a central authority. You can't have it both ways. You may not admit to that, but indeed that is what you are saying.

Mr. Martel: Why? Would you tell me why one can't decentralize, provided the guidelines laid down for the staff out of there give them the authority to make the decisions that are necessary for a specific location or area?

Mr. Parrott: Are you then going to do away with all local people?

Mr. Martel: They will be local people. Who are we hiring, somebody from Mars?

Mr. Parrott: I'm talking about the board. Are you going to do away with all the local elected officials on the welfare or the community services board? Are you?

Mr. Martel: No.

Mr. Parrott: All right.

Mr. Martel: Wait a minute. You asked me a question so let me answer it.

Mr. Parrott: You said no.

Mr. Martel: That's right. Let me answer. In BC they now have elected resources boards that are given a budget to work with in an area. Now, Harry, how would you like to grab that one for a while?

Mr. Parrott: You have as much co-ordination as zero.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say—

Mr. Martel: Then you are saying that local people don't have co-ordination—

Mr. Parrott: No, I am asking you to decide which side of the issue you are on.

Mr. Martel: I know where I stand. I am not sure where you stand.

Mr. Parrott: Well, it is pretty hard to hear it from here.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, I would like—

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, let me go back to the conversation I had with the gentleman here to my right—

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell wants to add—

Mr. Haggerty: Well, I want to add to what I said about the overlapping of services between the two social departments in the region.

Mrs. Campbell: I yield to my colleague if I may have the floor next—if there is a chance.

Mr. Haggerty: One is sponsored by the regional municipality of Niagara and the other is provincial, part of the social services ministry in St. Catharines. I feel there are a number of social workers who are going out through the peninsula and perhaps making two calls on one family, when one would do the job. Sometimes they are referred to the regional municipality, which will send out a social worker; but when they get there they say: "Well, I'm sorry. It is not under our particular branch or department. You have to contact so-and-so in St. Catharines. So out goes another social worker.

What I am saying is that I think these two groups should be working together to provide a good service to the community. I think there could be some improvements in that area.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Anderson: I would agree with that completely, and I think that is the thrust of the ministry right now—to use the municipalities as a co-operative partner in the programme. There is no question that I couldn't defend too effectively the concept of the use of two forms of assistance. I think that this is being attacked immediately, particularly in the question of the drugs for family benefits recipients as an initial case. Before that action was taken, there had been pilots going on in some of the municipalities, whereby the provincial worker on his or her call was allowed to take the application from the individual for special assistance or supplementary aid, submit it to the local welfare office with their recommendation, and their recommendation would be acted on in that way.

The more recent action was the drug cards for family benefits being made mandatory. They are being delivered, I presume by the municipalities, and are being approved and paid for by the municipalities. The action

subsequent to that is to take them over completely on Sept. 1 and make general welfare assistance drugs mandatory in about the same fashion from that time.

I don't think there should be any quarrel at all with a movement toward the co-operative management of any particular family situation. There have been some major actions take place that way in the south, particularly where the municipalities have been larger and have had, perhaps in many cases larger staffs than the provincial government had in the same area; and I guess the same thing would apply with regard to the rate of subsidy. I think if assistance is going to be encouraged by the province, or even made mandatory, then that's where the provincial cost-sharing should be increased to indicate their support for that kind of a programme at the local level. I think that is also being done.

Mr. Haggerty: It sounds like you were at that conference—

Mr. R. S. Smith: I hope you can get that through to these people, because nobody else has been able to do it before you.

Mr. Haggerty: It sounds like you were at the conference of ministers of welfare in Ottawa. Were you there?

Interjection by an hon. member.

Mr. Haggerty: It has got through to him but it hasn't got through to you then, has it?

An hon. member: He's never understood it until now.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We are on the same wavelength. We are entirely in agreement.

Mr. Haggerty: Where is the problem then?

Mr. F. Laughren (Nickel Belt): It is a new wavelength for you though.

Mr. Haggerty: Why don't you move in that direction then?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: If you look at Hansard of last year, we agreed that special aid should be funded at 80 per cent. That's one of the matters that was referred to.

Mr. Martel: I didn't say supplementary aid. I said special assistance. You have never committed yourself to that one.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: If you look at last year's Hansard, Mr. Chairman, you will find that we are entirely in favour of special assistance being funded the same as supplementary aid—80 per cent.

Mr. Martel: Why don't you do it?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We have started with drugs. That's a good start.

Mr. Martel: That's the tip of the iceberg.

Mr. R. S. Smith: You said at that time you would bring it to the policy field—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith:—and it would be brought from there to Management Board.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes.

Mr. R. S. Smith: You have said that three years in a row.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, that's right.

Mr. R. S. Smith: And finally we have gone part way in one thing.

Mr. Martel: That's progress.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I am glad Mr. Anderson is here, because I am sure he is going to push you the rest of the way, as he just said.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, I think there are a couple of observations I would like to make. First of all, I happen to have been very familiar with the situation in Metropolitan Toronto. I don't think John Anderson ever felt that he was a law unto himself as it pertained to the welfare committee of Metropolitan council, but I certainly will tell you that it was one of the most exciting committees I ever had the opportunity to serve on, because we were doing innovative things. I am of the opinion that there is room for the local level to be able to do some innovative policy things. One that comes quickly to mind was that we did ask that we should incorporate in the welfare department, the use of the trained volunteer.

I don't know where it went, but at least it passed that committee. These are the sorts of things that I think a local municipality should do.

On the other hand, I am very much concerned about one case. I raised the issue of this poor soul in my riding last year. She was on FBA and still is. I had to go to this ministry to try and get a food supplement and although she was entitled—I found out afterwards—to \$8 a month special food supplement, her supplement was raised from \$3 to \$7.

Mr. Haggerty: Sounds like she got the red-tape run-around.

Mrs. Campbell: Then I had to go to Metro to get assistance for certain equipment; for a mattress, for bedding, and this sort of thing.

I don't think these two should be all mixed up together in that way. I think the FBA recipient should get all the benefits through the one organization, but if, in fact, the municipality is still dissatisfied with the care given I think it should have the opportunity to add to the programme for that person.

I hope that makes clear to Dr. Parrott the position that I take in this. I do believe there should be decentralization, but we have heard so much about how awful it is that Toronto is so big and everything is for Toronto and we should be decentralizing. One of the major forces in drawing people to Toronto from across Canada and from other areas in the province, is simply the fact that Toronto's programme was so much more all-embracing and so much more sophisticated; and we had examples of that.

When I was first on Metro we had examples of people who got paid under the counter to come from other parts of Canada to Toronto for welfare assistance. There is something in this which has to be looked at. Surely everyone in the province is entitled to a universal service? Let your municipalities, if they have programmes they wish to establish, get into those; but when it comes to the simple service I must say that from any investigation I did there were areas in this province which certainly were not fulfilling their obligation to their people on welfare; even the most elementary obligations, according to the information I had.

This is where I think the concern is with us. We don't want overlapping and we do want decentralization, but we do feel that if you've got people on your FBA programme, for example, they should be totally served. That, of course, was part of the discussion, you will recall, that the minister had with Mr. Anderson and me on this very subject last year. It couldn't have been before last year.

There are differences of approach in these areas. I think they have to be looked at. I don't think you should have one person taking a part of a person and another government taking another piece of the same person. I think that's wrong.

Mr. Martel: There's the other part, too, of course, as you indicate. People move to Toronto; they move to Hamilton; they move

to large centres where there is the possibility of job opportunities.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes, they do.

Mr. Martel: And if they don't get a job, they end up on the welfare roll in that particular municipality. Consequently what happens is that municipality, or the local taxpayer, picks up a tremendous cost for welfare assistance; and I don't feel that's fair. I don't think that because there are job opportunities here and someone comes here and is unemployed, that the Metro taxpayer or the Sudbury taxpayer or the Hamilton taxpayer should be picking up the general welfare costs for people brought in from other parts of the country by a variety of things which draw them to that particular area.

That's another reason you might do like BC does. I understand it has now hiked to 90 per cent its cost of the sharing programme. Provincial-federal is 90 and the municipal share is only 10, whereas in Ontario we're still 50-30-20, with the municipality left to pick up 20 per cent of the burden.

It's not fair to the residents of those municipalities to be saddled with astronomical welfare costs when the individual did nothing to entice them there. He has to pay the support of them.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. John Smith?

Mr. J. R. Smith: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to share and support what Mrs. Campbell is saying here. I cannot help feeling, working on a day-by-day basis on constituency work, that with FBA recipients there certainly is duplication, particularly when you have the two offices in two geographical locations in the community. That perhaps should be one thing — I feel the facilities should be in reasonable proximity to each other.

The ministry's field workers are very good in liaising and co-operating and filling out forms and so on, but there is a duplication in services. Although we're talking about a 20 per cent charge to the municipality, nevertheless it would be interesting to know what the approximate administrative costs are on each of these individual files. They have to open a new file to get all the statistical information, and open it all up again so a certain person can receive eye glasses or dentures; all of this. Yet if a person is on family benefits the total welfare requirements I think should be supplied by the one arm of government. I see you're trying to move into this field and I hope before too

long, as Mrs. Campbell said, there will be one delivery system for the FBA people.

It's very confusing for the public because now they have to deal with a regional government, a municipal government, two social assistance programmes, plus the agencies of the federal government. It is very difficult, and very often some of these people have a lower standard of education, disabilities of one sort or another, or age is against them, and it confuses them.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, I think we are in agreement that the whole approach is to have an integrated delivery system; this is one of the major recommendations in the task force, and this is the area in which we are moving. In some areas where they have a very sophisticated form of government, such as southern Ontario, some areas have this; but it will take a little time before we are able to accomplish this. This is our goal, however.

Mr. Martel: On page 19, the task force recommends:

Short-term assistance would be provided by local government except in those areas where the ministry must deliver this directly to assure adequate services.

Assuming either a new or tax-related programme or a continuing, though perhaps modified, family benefits scheme, long-term cases would be managed by selected regional and amalgamated county or district units [selected, you'll note] where these have demonstrated sufficient maturity, and by the ministry elsewhere.

I look at those recommendations and I worry, because in fact what you are going to have is even more confusion. Some will be regional, some will be local, and you will have to determine which is regional and which is local in specific areas.

It is already confusing to the recipient. If we follow these recommendations it is going to be even more confusing. I don't know how you get away from it. If you follow the task force recommendations to alleviate the confusion to the recipient, how in fact are you going to do it?

I recognize the problem of local participation. That's why I said we might consider local boards that are elected.

Mr. Parrott: You are not serious about that, are you?

Mr. Martel: Well I am serious. They are being tried elsewhere; let's put it that way. We know that our system isn't working, and we have got to move to something new. Maybe we could experiment—

Mrs. Campbell: Heaven forbid that we would experiment.

Mr. Martel: Yes. But it is wrong to sit by, knowing that it is happening and that there is confusion out there, and not to do anything about it. Okay, BC is trying it; they are elected boards.

One can decentralize, as I said last night, and not really decentralize. You can have your ivory tower in Sudbury or in Windsor, but it doesn't necessarily mean you are out in the community. You can have your ivory tower in Toronto, and it doesn't mean to say you are out in the community in any way, shape or form. Even though it is a regional or a local welfare board, it doesn't mean to say you are any more decentralized, unless you are out into the community with people who have more time to do the job than you would if Queen's Park operated the whole thing.

I don't know how we should do it, but there has got to be something different. As I say, when I read this, I worried about it; I still worry about it, because I think as it now stands it is going to add to the confusion, it isn't going to rectify it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, just briefly, with reference to the Hanson task force, it is a good report; at the same time, like any report, it is not government policy. These are recommendations.

Mr. Martel: I just want to have my input from square one about my concern.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith?

Mr. R. S. Smith: I just have a few remarks on this; I think a lot of it is semantics as to what you mean by centralization and decentralization. In my opinion, your whole programme works best where it is administered by the one office. In other words, your programme works best in the unorganized municipalities in the province because your people administer both FBA and GWA; the same guy serves the same people.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That's right.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Your programme works best there, where there is no municipal involvement whatsoever. As for my own personal opinion, I believe the ministry should be decentralized into regions, as is

being done now, and broken down into districts, as is being done now. But I also believe that those districts and regions should be administering general welfare assistance as well as FBA. Local welfare administration by municipalities should be done away with completely, because I think that is where all the problems are. For you to say that you are decentralizing is good, and I agree with that—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Our aim is exactly what you are saying.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Are you saying to me that the next step after this decentralization is that you will take over the administration of GWA?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would hope not. I would hope that those areas which have good, efficient, sophisticated government would take over more and more programmes.

Mr. Martel: That would be going in the opposite direction.

Mr. R. S. Smith: That's the opposite direction.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Pardon?

Mr. R. S. Smith: That's the opposite direction.

The other thing we have to talk about is finance, because it's fine to talk about administration and decentralization of administration, but, on the other hand you've got dollars. That's the big thing in what kind of programmes are offered if they are going to be offered on two levels, your level and the municipal level. You know as well as I that GWA is offered in a hundred different ways across this province by a hundred different municipalities. There is no similar service to people across this province as far as GWA is concerned. Every GWA administrative body has different rules and different regulations.

For example, the Parry Sound district welfare board has a rule that if you have a paid-up insurance policy of \$1,000 you are not allowed to collect GWA. You have to cash in that policy, even if you get \$300 for it on the cash surrender value, before they will pay you GWA. That doesn't apply in any area where you people administer GWA yourself, nor does it apply in the city of Toronto's welfare department—or whatever you want to call their department, social service department.

You don't have equal administration across this province whatsoever. You're not going to get to that until the administration is the

full responsibility of the provincial government on a decentralized administrative basis, but with the costs paid and all the rules set to be the same for people right across this province. The costs have to be met 100 per cent by you people, by the province.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: One hundred per cent?

Mr. R. S. Smith: One hundred per cent. There is no reason for any costs of welfare to be charged to the landowner, because it's not the responsibility of land to pay for a social service like welfare. Obviously, on average, I suppose—you say that 80 per cent is paid from here—

Mr. Martel: You're right with me.

Mr. R. S. Smith: It's 30 from here. 50 from Ottawa but the 20 per cent left to the local level is what's causing the discrepancies, the differences, and in some cases the real hardships in this province. Toronto has a good system; I think it has been built up over the years into a good system. It's provided a good service to people. That's not the same in your area and that's not the same in mine.

Mr. Haggerty: If you're right next door to Queen's Park it is.

Mr. R. S. Smith: It's not the same in Sudbury and it's not the same in Hamilton. It's not necessarily the same in Ottawa; and it certainly hasn't been the same in Cornwall until perhaps lately. The people in this province are being treated differently as far as the administration and the costs of welfare are concerned.

People in my area are paying a much higher cost per person in the tax rate for general welfare assistance than people in Toronto are, even though the people in my area are getting much less service and much less to show for it.

It is somewhere around \$6 per capita in my city—I don't know what it is in Toronto. What is it in Toronto? Can somebody give me that figure? It should be readily available.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Anderson may know.

Mr. R. S. Smith: What is the cost of welfare, per capita, to the municipal taxpayer in Toronto?

Mr. Anderson: About \$25 million, I would think, from 2.5 million people.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Ten dollars?

Mr. Anderson: Roughly \$10 per capita.

Mr. R. S. Smith: In my area now it is around \$8, but the return to recipients is almost minimal compared to what they get here in Toronto—they've never paid for drugs. They've never paid supplementary assistance or any of this type of thing. That is something they wouldn't even talk to you about.

There is no even cost to the taxpayer across the province. There is no even service. There is nothing about the programme which is equitable to all people across this province. You're never going to get to that until you people take it over and administer it on a decentralized regional basis with the same rules applying everywhere. I've made that point for six years now in these estimates.

Mr. Haggerty: It is a good point.

Mr. R. S. Smith: I'll keep making it. It's not doing me any good. You people aren't going to listen because obviously you can't understand what equalization of services is.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Paying 100 per cent of general welfare is a matter of philosophy—

Mr. R. S. Smith: No, it is a matter of dollars; it is not a philosophy.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I still think there should be some local discretion. Local people know their own areas best. I do believe, however, that when it comes to special assistance it should be funded 80 per cent, as it is in Metro and many areas—they are not funded, but rather they are providing special assistance to those who need it. There are certain areas in the province, but not too many, that are not providing assistance, like denturists and so forth. There is no doubt that people, regardless of where they live, should get those services.

It is our hope, as I said last year, that we could be funding special assistance at the same rate as we fund supplementary. We have moved in on the prescribed drug area, and it is our hope to move elsewhere with dentures, and so forth.

Mr. Haggerty: Mr. Chairman, was this topic ever pursued at the conference of welfare ministers last April, 1973?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No, because all the provinces are entirely different. In Ontario we have maybe 1,000 municipalities and we also have regional government and county government. We work closely in partnership with the local government; and this is our

aim, to work more and more closely with local governments.

Mr. Haggerty: The point I am trying to get through to you is was this topic ever discussed at the conference in Ottawa.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No.

Mr. Haggerty: I am talking about the tax base, the revenue from which you get the resources to provide the GAINS programme or the general welfare programme, or family benefits.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No.

Mr. Haggerty: The province is just like the federal government. You have a far greater tax base from which to get that revenue than a municipality has, and this is where it hurts the municipalities. I have been on a welfare committee in a municipality and the question always arises, where do we get the next dollar. If you raise the mill rate an additional one mill for welfare, you are being hung at the next election or you are being shot down by the people in that community.

Mr. Parrott: Where you are to get the next dollar is just as vital in Toronto as it is in your municipality.

Mr. Haggerty: No. The federal and provincial governments have a bigger tax base to get that extra dollar and that is where it should be taken from.

Mr. Martel: So has Metro Toronto.

Mr. Haggerty: The tax base is just that much greater. You can go to the corporations or you can go to many big places to get this revenue. When you look at it, it should be an overall tax base for welfare and not just hitting the municipality for 20 per cent. I think that day is gone. You should be looking at other avenues for a tax base for it, not from the municipalities.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Every municipality has a different tax base and a different ability to pay, and that's where the problem is.

Mr. Haggerty: Sure.

Mr. R. S. Smith: If they all had the same tax base and the same income, it wouldn't be any problem, but they don't.

Mr. Haggerty: I know municipalities that have an assessment ratio of about 80 per cent residential to 20 per cent commercial and industrial. Then when you base the 20

per cent tax on the 80 per cent residential, that really hits the average taxpayer in that area.

Mr. Martel: In northern Ontario you have the problem where in many of the municipalities there is no industrial tax base. You know that as well as I do. You've got municipalities where the mining industry is located in another township. You've got the pulp and paper industry where you've got the town-site in one place and they are cutting somewhere else. You've got no industrial base to tax from at all. In the dormitory municipality, which is the service area for people, the second you try to raise an extra dollar, it comes right through the municipal tax base, the residential home. Industry doesn't pay. That is part of the problem.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, this is a major government policy about the funding at 100 per cent of general welfare. I would say we are moving in the area of using OHIP more and more for prescribed drugs. I would think the next step could well be dentures and so forth. It would cover not only those on social assistance, but also the thousands of the so-called low-wage earners, the working poor. They are the ones who should be assisted more and more.

Mr. Haggerty: You dropped a programme; you had a programme here to supplement their income. Did you not have that programme here; or was that just in the white paper or green paper? Which was it now?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The supplementation of wages?

Mr. Haggerty: For low-income wage earners.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, this has to be an agreement between the municipality and the province.

Mr. Haggerty: You come back to the municipality and they say we don't want any part of it. If you go back to that conference in Ottawa, all of the ministers agreed there should be such a programme as this.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: This is one of the major thrusts of the federal-provincial conference, the question of wage supplementation—

Mr. Haggerty: That's right, and you have all agreed to it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: —and community employment projects.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Most provinces don't have municipal input like you do.

Mr. Haggerty: I think all the ministers agreed to this programme; and yet you have tried it and apparently for some reason you have dropped it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Wage supplementation?

Mr. Haggerty: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No. Metro Toronto, and I believe the city of Peterborough and many others have some projects.

Mr. Haggerty: How successful has it been then?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It's only been implemented very recently. We amended our General Welfare Act last fall to permit this, last November I believe. Some municipalities are taking advantage of this scheme.

Mr. Haggerty: And how many communities? You said Kitchener, Toronto—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I believe Metro Toronto, Peterborough; there may be others—

Mr. Anderson: I think London has a presentation.

Mr. Haggerty: How come the minister missed the Niagara region, then, in the arrangement of this?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It is up to them.

Mr. R. S. Smith: It will be 30 years before that programme is applied universally across the province. I predict that if you leave it the way it is now; it never will be provided.

Miss Crittenden: This will all be part of the income security review.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As Miss Crittenden indicates, this is all part of the income security review. We discarded the guaranteed annual income experiment and we think that this area of wage supplementation has a lot of merit. At the same time, we are not convinced that this is really the ultimate answer. That is why the federal government, along with the province, have the working committees, community employment projects, and so forth.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But you have implemented this one programme, and there are—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It is available to municipalities on application and, as indicated, there are two or three who have already—

Mr. R. S. Smith: That is right. I say to the minister that as long as he leaves it available, and not mandatory to the municipalities—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No, no.

Mr. R. S. Smith: —it will stay available a long time in a lot of areas where—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: How can you make this mandatory, Mr. Chairman? How would you make this mandatory—that municipalities be compelled to supplement wages?

Mr. R. S. Smith: You now compel them under GWA. GWA is mandatory for municipalities.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: For prescribed drugs.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Oh no, I'm not talking about prescribed drugs; I am talking about the programme. GWA itself is mandatory under—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The General Welfare Assistance Act.

Mr. R. S. Smith: That's right and this other—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The other one to be decided.

Mr. R. S. Smith: —programme will be made mandatory in exactly the same way by legislation.

Mrs. Campbell: I don't think it should be made mandatory. I think they should take it over if they want to make it mandatory.

Mr. R. S. Smith: They should take it over, firstly, and do it all themselves.

Mr. Martel: It's ordinary needs. Who drafts the ordinary needs schedule for the municipalities?

Miss Crittenden: On the wage supplementation, those are three projects that are being tried out. The wage supplementation is being paid 100 per cent by Ontario. It is not being shared by Ottawa.

Mrs. Campbell: Or the municipality?

Miss Crittenden: I am sorry, the municipality and the province. I want to make a point—

Mrs. Campbell: You always forget that!

Miss Crittenden: The income security review that is being carried out by all the provinces and the government of Canada, this

is one of the areas that is coming in for very careful study. How do you supplement low-income people? It is one of the areas that's being studied. The whole country is trying to tackle this problem. I can't tell you when the income security review is going to be completed. Perhaps in another year; is it, Mr. Heagle?

Mr. G. Heagle (Executive Director, Income Security): Mr. Chairman, I believe in another year is the approximate date.

Miss Crittenden: But this is one of the areas. In the meantime we are trying to get data on what happens when you make it available and municipalities use it.

When the income security review is completed, there will no doubt be new policies established for the government of Canada and the provinces themselves. But if one province tries to implement a programme ahead of that review, all you do is get more irrationalization in the delivery system.

Mr. R. S. Smith: In other words, the programme you've initiated is a trial programme only.

Miss Crittenden: And we are paying for it from that point.

Mr. R. S. Smith: Yes, but don't say you have a programme for the whole province.

Miss Crittenden: Well, anyone can pick it up.

Mr. R. S. Smith: But it's not a programme, because if anybody started to pick it up to any great extent there would be some cutoff.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, might I suggest that we move into a vote and let the minister answer? We are wandering all over the ball park here. We'll come back to these items.

Mr. Haggerty: You started it, Elie.

Mr. Martel: Well, I just wanted the minister to reply to what I said last night; he hasn't finished his reply. I think it might be wise—although I can see the member for Oxford wants to speak; he is chafing at the bit.

Mr. Parrott: Elie, if you will allow us to move into a vote, I would be the last, the very last, to deny you that request.

Mr. J. R. Smith: Peace. Let's have some peace.

Mr. Martel: The minister wants to finish his response.

Mr. Parrott: I think even the minister might, in good—well I won't put in the next word—but in good sense he would accept it, let you go onto the next vote and to heck with his reply.

Mr. Chairman: The minister has stated that he has finished his remarks.

Mr. Parrott: Has the member for Sudbury East finished too?

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question of clarification of the minister. He did not answer one of my questions, and I am quite prepared that he answer it when we come to the GAINS programme. He will recall that I did ask him what he had done about establishing some form of rent control for those people who will gain under the GAINS programme—starting, of course, with OHC—and there was no answer to that. If he wishes to do it later, fine; but I'd like that question answered.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would prefer, Mr. Chairman, that this be dealt with under the GAINS programme only.

Mr. Chairman: Therefore, we will proceed with the votes. Vote 2601, ministry administration programme, item 1, main office.

On vote 2601:

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, on the vote on main office, I am grateful, as I expressed before, for the summary we've been provided with so that we can follow this. We can see there an assessment of plans and programme ideas and the direction of ministry policy planning. And the items on legal services and audit are quite clear as far as I'm concerned. But I have been finding it very difficult to find out anything in detail about women's services. Perhaps we didn't get to the right people, but we didn't get the information we would like.

First of all, do we have a summary of precisely what we are doing in the policy planning field as it pertains to this vote? Do we have any policy or review on the question of nutrition, which I raised? Or is that to be dealt with in another vote?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, on the subject of nutrition, we would prefer if it could be dealt with in the next vote.

Mr. Martel: Well, Mr. Minister—

Mrs. Campbell: I would like it understood that, to me, to deal with it in the next vote we will be really prolonging a debate on the inadequacies rather than getting some emphasis on some forward-looking research, which I would have submitted belongs either under research itself or in this vote. I am totally dissatisfied with this element in the delivery of service. But I'd like it understood, if we do get into it in that vote, that we can deal with it there as a policy matter.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: Very well. If that's understood—

Mr. Martel: Whoa, whoa. Now that's going to have to be discussed under research, I suggest rather strongly. Where else, Mr. Chairman, would one consider the research going on in the ministry with respect to nutrition or any other subject other than under research? By the time we get around to vote 2 your research staff might be gone. I don't want that to happen.

I want to know specifically what is happening because I have a great deal from the Montreal Dietary Clinic on the cost to society today for one child who might need help because of inadequate nourishment of the mother during pregnancy. The costs now reach \$100,000 for looking after that child once it is trying to get out in the world on its own, but for \$125 per pregnancy you can prevent that. I don't want us to get into discussing income maintenance where the municipality has the option of paying \$6 a month and doesn't do it but I do want to talk about the full ramifications of malnutrition.

Mrs. Campbell: So do I.

Mr. Martel: That has to come under research. I want to know what your staff is doing.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes.

Mr. Martel: I raised it last year.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, what the member for Sudbury East and Mrs. Campbell say is quite true; it comes under research. Since some of my staff who are experts in this are not here today, with your indulgence perhaps we could wait until the next vote? But it is quite true, it is mainly health and research.

Mr. Martel: Right.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We're up to women's services; we are prepared to deal with this now.

Mrs. Campbell: Can we get a breakdown? I understand there are two people employed. Usually that's what happens in women's services: You set it up but don't give it the money or the staff to be efficient and then probably assume that women aren't efficient because of that. It's a circle we've been through so often.

I understand that in item 1 \$40,000 is designated to this area. Is that correct?

Miss Crittenden: Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Chairman, when I became deputy minister, I was extremely concerned that in the total area of equal opportunity for women, in the treatment of women in the labour force and those who are in receipt of social assistance, rights would be guaranteed.

The budget for my office was established before I was appointed. However, I applied to Management Board for permission to re-assign part of my own budget to this very important service. I feel it is so important I would be prepared to go without certain other assistance in my own office to ensure that this was established. I was very fortunate in having Miss Graham, our former director of children's services, accept this appointment.

As you know, we have 10,000 employees in our ministry; 65 per cent of those are women. In the agencies we subsidize for 80 per cent, again over 50 per cent are women. We have an obligation to ensure that there is fair treatment for everyone, men and women, but we have more women than men in this large ministry.

Since Miss Graham has assumed this responsibility, she has undertaken to attend a number of conferences, to act as a consultant to agencies, to our own staff and to monitor grievances when women have claimed to be improperly treated. This is just a beginning of the job. I would like Miss Graham, if she would care to come to one of the microphones, to tell you some of the further plans.

The budget of \$40,000 is correct at this moment. I expect it to be increased by the time I put forth the next year's plans.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, before we get to that, I think the deputy is falling into the usual trap. I'm sure that if a male in this position felt as seriously about this as obviously this deputy does, there would have been first an attempt to increase the

budget rather than to sacrifice something else in order to establish it. That is not intended to be a criticism. It is just that it is something which so often happens in the female role-playing in this country.

Before we get to that, is it a fact that there are two people, two women, engaged in this specific service at this time?

Miss Crittenden: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: And the \$40,000, you confirm, is the budget for it?

Miss Crittenden: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: The \$10,000 that we have, part of that has been the result of the bringing in to this ministry of the mentally retarded programme. Is that not so?

Miss Crittenden: That is correct.

Mrs. Campbell: This is what I have been able to get and I would like some comments. First of all the need is to establish a programme, one of the areas of concern being basically the geographic distribution of workers. I understand you are presently considering films, reading lists, an orientation package deal and so forth. That is one. Is that correct?

Miss Crittenden: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: Then there is the personnel counselling, then ongoing planning. Don't you think that realistically we could expect much more than the personnel counselling elements as an in-depth kind of approach, with a director, a secretary and \$40,000 in this next year? I never underestimate the power of a woman but, believe me, that seems to be going too far.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, you will note that on page 3 we have 33 vacancies which are under the control of the deputy minister, and as this programme expands I will increase the complement for this director.

Mrs. Campbell: I don't think it answers me. Would it not be fair to say that probably within the year, granting what we have at the moment, it would be difficult to go much beyond personnel counselling?

Miss Crittenden: No, it will expand beyond that, Mrs. Campbell.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. J. R. Smith: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say to Miss Graham that perhaps

one of the real areas of concern of many people is the problems faced by the native people in some communities and regions of this province. I hope that, similarly, in recruitment and leadership in responsible positions in these fields, community workers, and so on, that Indian women too are encouraged, because obviously if there is a breakdown in family life this group is going to have the answers to solve many of the pressures and problems faced by these people.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, if it is all right, let's say they are going to tackle it. Every time we have brought to the attention of the ministry a case of a problem of either discrimination or where an opportunity is not equally available, that is being referred to the women's services. We had this brought to our attention on the weekend. People were being trained for a certain programme and then no positions were made available to them. This is being referred to the women's services also, to investigate and find out whether there is fair treatment, and if there is fair treatment, what more can be done to ensure that the opportunities are made available.

Mr. J. R. Smith: I would like to say, Mr. Chairman, that I recall a number of years ago the ONR meeting downstairs in the committee and I asked that very question of the ONR—how many native people had positions of responsibility—and I really got a blank look. They were used at that time on section gangs on the roadbed and so on. Everyone knows there are many of these young people, particularly young people graduating from secondary school programmes. Our Minister of Education (Mr. Wells) has a new incentive programme for native people. You don't necessarily have to have all the letters after your name in the social field, either; and I think we could tap these people to resolve their own problems.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, I think this is quite right. But also I would like you to be assured that we do employ many native people—not many, some native people—and they certainly are not expected to have BAs, or a grade 13, as far as that goes.

On Saturday afternoon I was accompanied by one of the native workers from Kenora, a woman whose enthusiasm and knowledge about her people's affairs far exceed mine. I was driving along the highway on Monday morning and ran into another one of our workers, a native person who handles all the cultural and Indian sports in the area. We

have a number of people who are of native origin. However, we do not have that kind of data available—because we don't ask anybody. It is just that if you happen to sit beside them, you know they are. It's a matter, though, that we want to assure that they receive good treatment.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, before we start I want to ask the minister if his staff has been able to locate for me their guaranteed income programme, which they scuttled before I could have a look at it? Has that been hustled out by someone? The one you took such delight in announcing as being the best move you ever made—and then cancelled. I would just like the background material.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: If I understand the question correctly, through you, Mr. Chairman, to the member: If they can locate the guaranteed income programme?

Mrs. Campbell: Yes.

Mr. Martel: Your copy of the study—the research you put into it before you scuttled it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We would be pleased to make that available.

Mr. Martel: Right. Well, I haven't got it yet.

Mrs. Campbell: May I also have that one?

Mr. Martel: I will go into it as I go on in this vote. I guess the thing I want to start with, Mr. Minister—

Mr. Chairman: Before you start; Miss Graham was invited to the microphone a while ago. Perhaps she would like to make a few comments.

Miss B. Graham (Adviser, Women's Services): Mr. Chairman, there is not too much I can add to what Miss Crittenden has already said in describing our beginning programme. I have just been on this assignment since approximately April 1; and besides what Mrs. Campbell has outlined, I have also been hard pressed to keep on top of the periodicals and pamphlets and books and articles on the subject and to get up to date and informed on the current state of affairs in this new and very interesting field.

The personnel counselling side is, indeed, an important one and one that's extremely hard to measure; because my door is open

and you never know when and how many people are going to be dropping in—and there certainly seems to be a steady stream.

At the same time, I am working closely with some of our other branches, the staff training and development people, in particular; and the people in the Ministry of Labour who already are also trying to develop a kind of training packet for women's services in other ministries who do not have an adviser on their staff.

We have been trying to develop jointly an appropriate orientation packet that might be, I hope, available and operating by the fall.

This has taken some time, because our needs are quite obviously different from some of the other ministries; partly because of the volume of the women in our employment and partly because of the very wide geographical spread. Then, also, in some of the parts of the ministry there is a real concentration of women; in others, it is not so much of a concentration, but a focusing at certain categories of employment. So that it's not a simple task and it's one that we are beginning to develop.

I look forward to having some kind of network of liaison, or whatever we might call them; people across the province and throughout our district organization who will be able to keep me informed and will be able to keep ongoing orientation programmes developed so that there will be awareness of all our personnel of equal opportunity programmes and what may result from that. So that we will have an all-around better personnel relationship throughout the ministry as well as, eventually, throughout the network of services that we assist in funding.

Mrs. Campbell: Could I find out the procedure if you find somebody who believes that they have a grievance? What do you do about it from that point? If you find that there is a justifiable grievance, what do you do?

Miss Graham: Mr. Chairman, you get into some of the technicalities of disputes in labour relations. There are laid down procedures for full grievance, if it's a formal grievance. Where I try to be involved is before that stage of development occurs; to try to get alerted, either by the person involved or by those around them, as to what the problem is and try to get at it before it develops into a full-blown grievance.

Mrs. Campbell: I was perfectly aware of the procedures and grievances. I was con-

cerned about your role. What would be the role of this service if there were an investigation of an apparently justifiable grievance? What sort of clout is there? What kind of approach is there to the various parts of the ministry to clarify the matter before it does get to a full-fledged grievance?

Miss Graham: Mr. Chairman, partly, mine is an enabling role to try to get assistance to the person involved. Perhaps to answer the question more broadly, I report directly to the deputy minister. If there are serious matters heading toward a clash, if you like, then my responsibility would be to inform our deputy and to see that some action is followed through to resolve it. Perhaps that's where the clout, as Mrs. Campbell puts it, lies.

Mrs. Campbell: Then on the establishing of the programme with the information that I had, with your door open all the time and people coming in, how can you possibly get the time to establish a programme, having regard to the geographic distribution? What types of films, reading lists and orientation packages are you developing?

Miss Graham: Mr. Chairman, the question is very real. Because of the magnitude of the potential job, it could be tremendous. As to the type of film, I would be glad to supply a list of those that we've been screening, if Mrs. Campbell would be interested. A number of them are being collected or reviewed by the personnel in the Ministry of Labour, by the co-ordinator of women's services. There is an interest in the field and a considerable number of people are trying to draw a bibliography together. Our own ministry library has a beginning collection that I think will be very helpful.

What we have in mind, in brief, is a film to open discussion and then some trained leadership to lead discussion groups and to get a freedom of atmosphere and a climate of openness to discuss these problems. Half the battle in solving such problems is to discuss them.

Mrs. Campbell: Then I take it that this particular aspect would be related again more to personnel than to concern for delivery of service to women and their families. That part of it wouldn't be related to the filming, would it?

Miss Graham: Mr. Chairman, not immediately. I think that might be a long way down the road. At the moment, my major

concentration will be the personnel in the ministry.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, if I may add, one of the responsibilities of Miss Graham in this particular connection is she will be our representative to the committee on women and the law and the programme that's being developed through the Attorney General (Mr. Welch). But also if we discover legislation in the government, perhaps our own legislation, that in any way disputes the rights of women, Miss Graham has a responsibility to draw it to my attention. That is about the quickest way we can handle anything like that that may come up.

There is another matter. When we find that people in our agencies say that there is not an even application of the law, if it is brought to my attention, Miss Graham goes out and investigates it. I expect we will have a great deal more demand as soon as more people become aware of the service we are prepared to provide to the agencies and to our own recipients of service.

Mr. Chairman: Thank you, Miss Crittenden, and Miss Graham.

Item 1? Mr. Martel?

Mr. Martel: I have a number of things I want to discuss, Mr. Minister, particularly as it surrounds the Hanson task force but—why do that? Last night I made the point that your ministry is made up of a mass of rules and regulations which really inhibit the delivery of services.

I guess, and in discussion last night I made the point, most of that is necessary for you to survive because you don't have the budget to work with. What you do is put rules and regulations into effect and therefore the ministry has some way of coping by allocating certain funds.

Let me give you an example. A woman on family benefits, with a handicapped child, applying for an OHC unit under the present system would have three different means tests applied by three different levels of government. It is absolutely ridiculous. She would have to pass a means test laid down by the Ontario Housing Corp.; she would have to pass a means test when she wanted FBA originally; she would need a means test for getting the child into a day nursery being subsidized, if it was at all possible, for an FBA mother. What are we doing to get away from this paper jungle which we are amassing and which sees much of the money not going to services, I suspect, but in paper work?

I use that as one example. I could use dental, for example. If somebody who is on welfare needs attention there is only emergency service. There is no real maintenance of dentures anywhere that I know of, for dental services. Maybe there is in Metro Toronto but in most of the province there isn't.

Again, you have the same sort of approach. You must get approval to go to see the dentist. You go to see the dentist. He fills out three sets of forms. The three sets of forms are distributed, a number of agencies get them and, finally, after the child is nearly dead from pain, he might be fortunate enough to get emergency service. I have read every Act and the regulations you are responsible for, Mr. Minister, and it is a paper jungle. It is a nightmare, really. I don't know how your own staff keep track of what in God's name is going on over there; I really don't. It has to be changed; there has to be some simpler method than the paper jungle.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, we are entirely in agreement with what the hon. member says. There is certainly a great need for the rationalization of our programmes but I think—I know it sounds trite to say—there is no easy answer. At the same time, I think, going through it, this is the way our Treasury is moving through the taxation field; it could well be that this is the area.

There is often mention about a negative income tax. I know there are many who have different views about this but there is a need for rationalization of our programmes and certainly it is something which has to be done. When we come to the next vote, Glen Heagle and his people are working on this one. We agree there are complexities and inequities in the different programmes.

Mr. Martel: You are so agreeable it is hard to fight with you, Mr. Minister. You are learning from the Attorney General and it bothers me.

Mrs. Campbell: May I interrupt for a moment? We can discuss this matter under the second vote? Because that's where I want to—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, it comes under this vote but it would come more so under the second vote.

Mr. Martel: I just wanted to press that point there, Mr. Minister.

I want to talk mainly at this point about the reorganization of the ministry and certain—

ly the decisions which are going to be made there. What kind of budget do your various directors have out in the field? Your five executive directors, I guess you would call them; what kind of budget have you given them?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: At this time, Mr. Chairman, I do not believe that they have been given any budgets.

Mrs. Campbell: It's a welfare department.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Let's be realistic and let's be fair, Mr. Chairman. After all, this reorganization has just taken place recently and it takes a little time. There will be certain programmes which we will be controlling. It's our intention, as time goes on, to allow districts to make a lot of local decisions in areas that they can, but there will always be a need, on a regional basis say—for instance, in a home for the aged and so forth—to integrate and co-ordinate. The intention is to give the districts, as indicated earlier, more discretion and more authority to be able to deal on site, in the field, with these matters.

Mr. Martel: In other words, we can't expect too much autonomy in the next fiscal year, because they haven't got any of the long green stuff to work with. The autonomy for the next year will be surrendered because you're not providing them with a budget to work with. We can send Mrs. Etchen somewhere, and we can send Harry Willems somewhere, and we can send Dr. Williams somewhere and say, "Go ahead and do the job," but, if I understand the minister correctly, they don't have a budget—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Not at this time.

Mr. Martel: —and they haven't been provided with the guidelines as to how far their autonomy will go in making decisions for the local area, because they don't have any money. How then are they going to plan for the area in the next 12 months? What planning can they really do in the next 12 months for the local needs?

Mrs. Campbell: Paper planning. I bet they have enough paper and pencils to do some planning.

Mr. Martel: With the kind of budget they have they wouldn't need much paper work.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Starting with the assistant deputy minister, Mr. John Anderson, who is in charge of and is responsible for the delivery and the co-ordination of the delivery

service, then, as you have indicated, there are five area directors, one in northeastern Ontario, one in northwestern Ontario and three in southern Ontario. Their main responsibility is to co-ordinate with the district directors. The province is divided into 20 districts and each district works very closely with the local agencies, the local government, the local social planning council and the various other agencies. We do think that this is the right approach, this question of working in partnership, integration.

Mr. Martel: No one disputes that, Mr. Minister, for a moment. What you haven't done, though, is you haven't given them the wherewithal to do anything. Have you told them how far their autonomy goes? Can they approval a capital works project, for example, if need be, or a home for the aged? Can they introduce a multi-service centre on an experimental basis in an area?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: This is being done now, Mr. Chairman. Take in your area—

Mr. Martel: It all comes where for approval then?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: For instance, in northeastern Ontario, Dr. Williams, who is the area executive director, is working closely with the district directors of Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie and other areas. This whole question of senior citizens requiring accommodation is being looked into in Elliot Lake, Wawa and other places, and he is co-ordinating this. This is working in Hornepayne and other places. This is being done and it's working very successfully, and I'm exceedingly happy with what is happening.

Mr. Martel: I would be exceedingly happy if I knew you had some money to do something with, that, in fact, your talk about decentralization is real, that he doesn't have to come to Queen's Park ultimately to get approval to spend the money. I want to know how much authority he has got in his particular jurisdiction and how much more he has got to back up those decisions. If he's got to come back to Queen's Park for approval for everything, for money for everything, then in fact you have decentralized.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: When you speak about money, you have to be realistic—

Mr. Martel: Yes, I'm very realistic about it. I never have enough of it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No, but let's be fair in our comments. We have to be fair. Our

existing funding for homes for the aged in southern Ontario is 50 per cent from the municipalities or the counties and 50 per cent from the provincial government. In northern Ontario districts, it's a different formula, 70-30. These are existing. Do you think we are going to shelve all these existing formulas? There has to be some central planning; at the same time, we agree that the districts should have some budget in order to deal with some day-to-day matters. So there is a happy balance.

Mr. Martel: No, no, Mr. Minister. We are not talking about a petty cash budget to buy stamps and stationery; we are talking about a budget that allows those people to plan for the needs.

If I sense what you are saying, what is going to happen is that any major decision is going to have to be approved by Toronto. In fact, you are not really decentralizing at all. You have just added another layer along the way in the decision-making process. If you are going to decentralize and put people out there—and they are capable people; I am not at all disputing their ability—they should be in such a position that they know that they can say: Yes, we are going to go along with an addition for a home for the aged of 100 beds.

Have they got that kind of authority? Otherwise, all the chatter we have had over the past year on decentralization isn't worth a jot, because all you have done is put another person between Ben Belanger, Dr. Williams and the branch of the ministry that makes the final decision.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I don't want to repeat myself, Mr. Chairman, but as I mentioned earlier, there is the regulatory aspect; for instance, the funding of homes for the aged and other capital projects.

Mr. Martel: No one is saying to destroy that, Mr. Minister—not for a moment.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Then there's the discretionary part; and as I said, reorganization is still taking place. We indicated in our folder that this will take some time. Next year the districts will have a budget; they are preparing this. Right now there is no budget in the districts. But the district directors have authority, a lot of latitude, to deal with more and more of our programme, where before the decisions had to be made here in the main office.

Mr. Martel: I am afraid what is going to happen is that the main office is still going to

be in the position, without an adequate budget and without adequate guidelines laid down, where they can veto anything that these people decide might go in the area. It's obvious that you've decentralized, but you've kept total control of the purse-strings. I am not saying we should tell them all to go out on a spending spree; I am not saying throw out the regulations or the formula. I want to know how much authority Dr. Williams has to say: "Yes, we need an extra 20 beds on a home for the aged in Moonbeam."

Mr. J. R. Smith: You never grow old there.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That is not a good example, Mr. Chairman, because under the homes for the aged setup the municipalities have their own representatives; and if asked, we would co-operate, in this case, with the home for the aged board.

But again this would be a decision of local government.

Mr. Martel: Sure it comes under it, but unless you are going to put in a little of the green stuff, they might say: "No, we are not going to go ahead." I want to know if Dr. Williams has the authority to say, after he looks at it: "Yes, the province will fund it." Or will he have to come to Toronto to get the green light?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It depends on the programme you are speaking of.

Mr. Martel: That's exactly what I want to know.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: If it's a home for the aged, that is a good example. Yes, there would have to be co-ordination with our main office.

Mr. Martel: Tell me what specific authority Dr. Williams has then? Tell me what he has been told he can do.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As I indicated earlier, his main responsibility as executive area director is to co-ordinate the delivery of services in a region in co-operation with the district directors, and in turn of course with local government and local agencies. The funds will be allocated to the districts' budgets.

Mr. Martel: To the budget.

You see what bothers me, I thought—having read the report and listened to the minister very carefully last year—what in fact he was going to do was he was going to decentralize. They were going to get budgets, they were going to—I was hopeful that you

would even see FBA decided at the local region. In other words, everything wouldn't have to come to Toronto.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: This is our intention. And also there are areas, as indicated earlier, where they have some very efficient, sophisticated local government, either regional government or county government.

Mr. Martel: But you see, Mr. Minister, the whole thing is for nought, because if Dr. Williams or Mrs. Etchen decided, for example, that they want a work-activity project in their area, they will not be able to make that decision until they have some idea whether the funding is going to be available for it. Am I correct in saying that? That is what I'm talking about when I say decentralize.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, may I speak?

Mr. Martel: Sure, go ahead.

Miss Crittenden: The estimates that we are voting now were developed at the same time, or if anything prior to, the reorganization being announced. So the estimates are being voted within programmes that existed previously.

The reorganization is an incremental affair. Each month we are trying to move out responsibilities from the Parliament buildings to the districts.

You asked if Mrs. Etchen would have the authority to in fact say, "I approve"; and if this would go forward for a work activity. She would have the authority to approve it; to work with Mr. McKnight, to go to Ottawa to find out if Ottawa will approve it, because all work activity has two approvals. The fact the money doesn't show as Metro Toronto means nothing.

If Mr. Crawford approved a home for the aged in Sioux Lookout it will be Mr. Crawford's approval that the ministry will accept.

Mr. Martel: That is what I am asking.

Miss Crittenden: Because of the fact the money is still shown within the activities, the executive directors from the field have the authority to make the recommendation within the money that is left here, and we will not dispute their ability and knowledge. They are the people we have appointed to represent this ministry and to be able to make those decisions.

Mr. Martel: That is what I was looking for. I wanted to know if they had the authority to make these decisions.

Miss Crittenden: Family benefits; you asked if this would be decentralized. It is on a centralized computer. We will not change it until the result of the income security review is complete. Because we have it on a computer, if the income security review is going to take a different direction, every municipality or every small office would be forced to go to the expense of going to a computer. That's just quite unreasonable.

On the other hand, the district offices are the ones which have managed the case files—the district directors. Those already on the Telex just send through their recommendation on the Telex. But to do away with the centralized computer and put other people to the expense of a great many more computers until the social security review is complete would just be a very frivolous use of public funds.

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Mr. Chairman, I am quite surprised. Is the minister not looking after the riding the member for Sudbury East represents? I mean, over our way we have no complaints. We are well looked after in our regional municipality of Niagara. We have your office in St. Catharines, with Mr. Desiri heading it.

What is the problem with these people up there? I think the member had better get together with the minister or the deputy or somebody and get the problem ironed out if there is some misunderstanding.

I'm sorry to hear those complaints about your department by that member for northern Ontario. I'm very sorry they are not being looked after a little better than they are and that there is some misunderstanding.

I know you can't give them the green light. I wish we had it over home. The green light in the St. Catharines office is to go ahead and spend what they like. I know there has to be some kind of budget to work on and some kind of a programme. I can't understand all this controversy and misunderstanding here today.

Mr. Chairman: Any further statements, Mr. Martel?

Mr. Martel: I won't choose to comment on that interjection, Mr. Chairman. I'll just pretend it didn't happen and ignore it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We are moving in that area. Next year we will have a budget for four districts.

Mr. Martel: I would like to talk about the funding for a moment. We started to discuss it in that rather general discussion we had a

while ago. You do come under some criticism in the Hanson task force on the way you hand out money. I'm not sure it's not part of the overall game too. There is no consistency in the way moneys are allocated. I could quote the Hanson task force. It has an excellent chart at the back of the report which shows all the different formula. Is there any effort being made to rationalize the way in which moneys are allocated?

You have it all on record in the Hanson task force. If anyone wants to read it, they might read from page 112 to the next five pages or so on the different type of funding and the formula—which you'd never get on a computer, Miss Crittenden, because I'm sure the computer would kick it all out. It could never stand it. It wouldn't understand what is going on.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: In this whole area we are moving toward rationalization of our grants. For example, the whole area of group homes comes under at least three or four, if not five, ministries. The whole area of rationalization, not only within a ministry but within ministries, is also directly affected.

Mr. Martel: It is a real nightmare. Are you considering increasing your share? We started to talk about it a while ago. I understand Quebec had taken over municipal welfare under Mr. Castonguay before he departed, and there's only one agency handling it there. I understand BC has moved its 85-15 sharing to 90-10 sharing, and it is obvious they're moving in the right direction. Ontario, which is supposedly decentralizing, has a maze of formula, starting with the most iniquitous 50-50 for special assistance. I don't want to miss the opportunity to remind you of it again.

Are you going to pick up a greater portion for the reasons I outlined before? The municipalities shouldn't have to absorb social costs on residential assessment which was never meant for this purpose. My understanding of residential assessment is that it was for services in the municipality; sewer, water, roads, lighting and so on.

Mrs. Campbell: Fire.

Mr. Martel: Fire, yes; the services that are necessary in a community. The residential assessment was never meant, really, for educational costs nor social services, both of which are becoming a greater burden on the taxpayer.

I'm wondering if the province is considering, as Quebec is doing, paying 100 per cent.

I'll give you some options, Mr. Minister. Pay 100 per cent; take it over; or fund it at least to 90 per cent as BC and Quebec are doing.

Mrs. Campbell: Don't suggest it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: In certain areas there is a need to fund at a higher percentage. We don't intend it to be provincially administered as indicated earlier. We strongly believe in local government and in giving them more assistance and more funds and leaving them the discretion to administer this. We don't intend to do like Quebec or like BC.

Mr. Martel: That is interesting. I always hear around here, when it is convenient, how much we worry about local government. One day you'll be worrying about letting it stay with local government and the next day you are taking something away from them.

It's always convenient to throw out that red herring. You believe in local government one day and the next day you take something away from them. In almost seven years around here, I've heard that many times; and then seen a bill introduced which took away some of that local authority. The only time you ever take away from local authority is when it is going to cost you money, Mr. Minister; and this is a prime case.

I think there is a case for the province increasing its subsidy if it's not going to take it over. I don't think that local governments can afford it; particularly in certain areas where there is an influx of people. I just don't think the province can sit by and expect them to handle it alone.

It also has different meanings for different areas, as I mentioned earlier. In northern Ontario you've got a mining company which is off in another township. You can't get the assessment from that particular mining company, so that any costs are against the municipal taxpayer in that municipality.

I don't suggest that you look at them individually, of course. It would just add to the hodge-podge of rules and regulations and exceptions and whatnot that already exist in the ministry. It seems to me the easiest way of overcoming it is maybe increasing to 90 per cent this year. There are municipalities which need the assistance.

You see what I am slowly doing here, Mr. Minister, in your main office, is to—well spelling it out in five points the things that

have to be done to improve the delivery of services. I'm not dealing with anything specific, yet. I'm just trying to get the background for the votes as we come along.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, may I answer Mr. Martel on one point? Quebec pays 100 per cent of income maintenance. But in many instances it pays nothing for services; or they pay services on a percentage basis.

I think that Ontario pays 80 per cent on many services; 50 per cent on any capital. We pay 100 per cent on family benefits, and 80 per cent on GWA. The fact is that our percentages do not match Quebec's. They are 100 per cent on income maintenance; but for instance in daycare they never paid anything until about six weeks ago.

Now I'm merely saying that they are using other devices to fund other areas at a lower amount. So that the comparison is not particularly valid.

Mr. Martel: The example you gave wasn't a very good example either, daycare—

Mrs. Campbell: No.

Mr. Martel: —because you've only got up to \$12 million this year. So if you could give me a better example I might—

Miss Crittenden: Institutional care is another example.

Mr. Martel: Yes, well we—

Miss Crittenden: All kinds of counselling services are not funded. I'm merely saying that the funding arrangements vary from province to province, and on the fact that one province selects some part at 100 per cent and another at 80 per cent, you can't really compare them.

I was a chairman of a task force on the cost of welfare in Canada and it was the greatest hodge-podge trying to find out how they funded; because you would find they didn't fund at all, so they had no statistics on a service that another province funded at 80 per cent.

So you would really find it very difficult to compare how they fund from province to province.

Mr. Martel: You forget an interesting point in all of this, Miss Crittenden; that social services are not the responsibility of the federal government under the constitution. And it's not the responsibility of the municipalities—except that the provinces deigned

it to be. Because it is my understanding that under the British North America Act social services are the responsibility of the provinces, not the municipalities, and the funding on cost-sharing comes from the federal government.

Social services are the responsibility of this province and the fact the province decided to give some of it to the municipalities is very generous of them, you know.

But I'm sure most municipalities, given the opportunity to surrender that responsibility would be absolutely delighted to do so. The constitutional responsibility rests with Queen's Park; it doesn't rest with Metro Toronto, with Sudbury, with London, with Moonbeam. It rests here.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No, you are quite right.

Mr. Martel: This is where it all comes to an end, right here.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Briefly, the federal government has the money, the provinces have the jurisdiction, and the municipalities—

Mr. Martel: Have the responsibility and the problems; right.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That is why we keep insisting, more and more, the provinces should get more money. We should get more money from Ottawa to let us decide our criteria.

Mrs. Campbell: Except if you got it, you would put it into communications or radio or television or something else.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: You have no faith, Mrs. Campbell, in the provincial—

Mrs. Campbell: Not in your concern for people; no, I don't.

Mr. J. R. Smith: That is not fair.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Minister, as I said, I am trying to build this up because I want to quote from the Hanson task force. I always worry about the delivery system and the task force has indicated what a delivery system should be. I guess it comes back to what it is not, particularly at the general welfare level.

I deal with the three in the Sudbury area. I never seem to have very many problems with your office which handles GWA and FBA in the unorganized townships. I start to run into problems when I have FBA, when it involves special assistance, and GWA, straight across the border in organized townships.

The Hanson task force says: "It is essential that a person in need of assistance should be able to find that aid without undue difficulty." I want to tell you, don't get into a problem on a weekend in Ontario. Where does one go after 4 o'clock on Friday in Ontario?

Mrs. Campbell: In Toronto, I could tell you. I can't tell you for the rest of Ontario.

Mr. Martel: Maybe you can help me in Toronto, but you can't help me in the Sudbury district on Saturday or Sunday. That is the first criterion. I made the same complaint last year with respect to Children's Aid Societies.

What happens from 4 o'clock on Friday night until 9 o'clock on Monday morning? There seems to be an unwritten law that nothing is supposed to happen on the weekend; but unfortunately, human nature being what it is, problems do arise on the weekend. I want to know what is being done to ensure that somewhere, somehow, the first criterion laid down by the Hanson task force is met.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, there are provisions but they vary according to the areas. I can't speak for Metro Toronto but I am sure there is provision within Metro Toronto and in other areas. It depends on the localities.

Mr. Martel: Tell me about Sudbury, Mr. Minister, an area I know fairly well. Tell me what happens after 4:30 on Friday when someone has a problem? Crises arise; they don't pick their times.

Mr. J. R. Smith: Why do they always wait until then to phone? I have had that happen to me as well. It makes you wonder.

Mr. Martel: Sure but what—

Mrs. Campbell: Because often it doesn't happen until after 4 o'clock.

Mr. Morningstar: We can't hear you, John.

Mr. Martel: He has the same problem in his area.

Mr. J. R. Smith: Mr. Chairman, I often say to myself, why do they always wait until the office is closed before they call? In many instances the situation was there before 4 o'clock or 4:30.

Mr. Morningstar: Down my way we have a department of welfare in the city of Wexford, and they go there and get a temporary voucher to help them out over the weekend.

Mr. Martel: On Saturday?

Mr. Morningstar: Yes.

Mr. Martel: We don't have that in Sudbury.

Mr. Morningstar: You don't?

Mr. Martel: No.

Mr. Morningstar: You should see to that.

Mr. Martel: In most areas of the province it is not available.

Mr. Morningstar: It's the city's doing.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As I said earlier, Mr. Chairman, it varies according to area. Some areas do have that service, and I agree there should be some sort of service. In some areas it could be through the Children's Aid Society or in other areas it could be through the local municipality.

Mr. Martel: Some civil servants might not like this, but surely you could introduce working on Saturdays and Sundays as there is in the field of labour?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I'm not sure, Mr. Chairman, about that problem. I live in an area which is a lot more unorganized than the area you come from. People bring their problems to my attention. I am not aware, I know this arises, but I am not sure whether it is desirable—whether it is warranted rather—to have offices open. You are suggesting that offices should be open Saturdays and Sundays?

Mr. J. R. Smith: Like retail shopping, available round the clock.

Mr. Morningstar: Mr. Chairman, I might say that the member does put his hand in his pocket to help these people over the weekend. Maybe you have done that yourself, Mr. Minister.

Mr. J. R. Smith: That is because you are so kind-hearted.

Mr. Martel: What I am saying, Mr. Minister, is there is enough staff within your ministry to do a little shift scheduling on weekends and have someone in the office.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It is a suggestion we are prepared to look at, to see if there is some sort of a way of advising people who have emergencies and who require assistance, whom they should contact.

Mr. Martel: All right, fine. We will have an answer by next year.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, we have already tried two experiments in the province to see if we can have the offices open longer. We were trying to work in two instances with municipalities, the Children's Aid Society and our own staff, to ask them to work two evenings a weekend, Saturdays and Sundays, to in fact provide longer service. We ran into a little problem because we have several unions involved here. Nevertheless, I think it is something we are going to try to work toward, having a crisis line or social service line that will be available in many of the larger municipalities.

Mr. Martel: That's all I am suggesting, that there should be some vehicle.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: With the implementation of policy information centres, which would cover all of Ontario, it could well be that this could be the vehicle; so we are prepared, Mr. Chairman, to take a look at the recommendation.

Mr. Martel: The second point—

Mr. B. Newman: While we are on that, may I make a suggestion to the hon. minister too, that the local welfare offices not close between 12 and 1 or 1:30, because when people come down to an office they don't want to have to be waiting from 9 o'clock in the morning right through to 4. In some instances—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: You are referring to Windsor, to the local—

Mr. B. Newman: It has been brought to my attention that when they go down there it is closed between 12 and 1 or 1:30, or some time like that, and the phones are not in order or are not answered.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Our provincial offices, Mr. Newman, are not closed. This could be a municipal—

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, I am referring to municipal. I am not referring to the provincial at all, Mr. Minister.

An hon. member: Speak to the mayor.

Mr. Martel: They close at lunch.

An hon. member: It's unreal.

Mr. Martel: They close at lunch in Sudbury.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Pardon?

Mr. Martel: They close at lunch in Sudbury.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Our district—

Mr. Martel: No, no; not your district office.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: You mean the local welfare office, yes.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further on item 1?

Mr. Martel: Oh, yes, sure. The second point in Hanson—I am not going to deal with the accessibility, although there is some information—the one area that bothers me is that most recipients aren't aware of the various types of special or supplementary assistance that is available. I think they just don't know.

Mrs. Campbell: You don't need to think; they don't know.

Mr. Martel: One of the things I have found is that if somebody goes to an office on occasion and they ask for a certain type of pension, for example, they are not told that they can get another type, that they are not eligible for that one, that there is something else available to them. I had a case today.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well take the GAINS programme. The GAINS programme will be publicized in newspapers, we will have information available through all our offices and it will be sent to agencies. We will try to utilize every information outlet available.

Mr. Martel: As I say, I am not too concerned about that one. I am concerned about the next one. It says: "Once an individual has been granted assistance, he or she should be confident that it will continue as long as circumstances remain." Why is it that every month I have to phone for either FBA or GWA cheques? This weekend alone I phoned for two or three general welfare cheques and I was told: "They were mailed out yesterday." They are due on the first. Why is it that on the third or the fourth I have to phone in because they are still not there?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, you are referring to—

Mr. Martel: The GWA and FBA.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The cheques.

Mr. Martel: Frequently the cheque isn't there.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: There was quite a delay this winter and this was due, I believe, to a problem with the computer.

Miss Crittenden: The ONTAP programme.

Mr. Anderson: Conversion to a computer system.

Mr. Martel: Yes, but should a recipient have to wait? This happens frequently, even with FBA, that the recipient waits for his cheque. I used to phone Mr. D. Alfieri, and I would say: "Would you look this one up?" He'd look it up, and he'd say, "We've got a hold on it for the same reason." And I have to phone general welfare. If you're going to cut someone off for some reason, are they advised immediately?

Miss Crittenden: Yes. They're advised by letter two weeks before they're cut off. The letter says there is an intent to discontinue the allowance on FBA.

Mr. Martel: On FBA.

Mrs. Campbell: Not if they cut down.

Mr. Martel: Well, I've found that doesn't happen all the time. Maybe it's not frequent, but in general welfare, at the end of every month and about the 15th of every month, invariably there are cheques that don't show up; and I'm told that the proper form wasn't returned. You've got people who live long distances from Sudbury who are phoning the general welfare office long distance to find out where their cheques are. They get some reason, but ultimately they end up phoning me.

Since the task force mentioned this, I suspect it's occurring in other parts of the province; otherwise it would have never been drawn to their attention. What is being done to ensure that this doesn't occur? I'm thinking particularly of general welfare, because some of the cheques aren't paid monthly but on a two-week basis. What's being done to ensure that that's not going to continue to occur?

Mr. Anderson: As far as the family benefits cheques are concerned, they are supposed to reach the individual about two days before they're actually due. But in the last short period of time, in connection with family benefits particularly, if the cheques are held up, the district offices have the authority to replace them with emergency cheques; so they can take care of that.

With regard to general welfare assistance, there are a number of situations, particularly involving single people in urban centres, where we are unable to locate people. If you were discussing the cheque with the individual, in many situations I think it would be fairly obvious to you why the cheque hadn't

arrived; they would indicate that, yes, they had moved, or they had been out of town for a period of time, or something had taken place which might have interrupted their cheque.

Since general welfare assistance is intended to be for the short term, I don't think that it's likely that there will always be the two weeks' notice in writing and the 30-day period before a cheque is discontinued. Because with that group of people it might be found that there has been a working period, acceptable to some people or not, which is considered to be a reason for disqualification; so the cheque would be held up immediately.

All municipalities are being asked to notify the individual, by leaving a calling card or something to the effect, that a cheque is being held for any one of these reasons in order that they may clear with the office ahead of time. But there still are emergency holds put on cheques because of circumstances that come to the attention of the administrator just before the mailing date. If it's found that a person is working or has changed his address, then it is necessary to clear the entitlement at that time.

Mr. Martel: Well, I had two cases on Monday alone. Phone calls get them straightened out, but when I can make one phone call and get their cheque, there is something wrong.

One involved a woman with six children. She phoned me on Monday; by Tuesday the cheque was being sent out. What in God's name does that go on for?

Another man phoned me on Monday as well. He had an assignment, and he took in \$950 just when he got his cheque. He was still out with illness, but he took the whole thing over to the welfare office, and by Monday still no cheque. It bothers me that that sort of thing goes on.

I suspect that most of us in this room, with rather higher incomes than they have, look forward to our paycheque on payday—except the minister and the deputy minister; they don't have to. The rest of us do. But to somebody on welfare that cheque being late three or four days really hurts those people. I see no reason why I should have to pick up the phone on behalf of those two people and make one phone call. It is not that I am opposed to doing it; that's part of my job, I guess. But I think the cheques should be out, as this says.

Unless there is a real circumstance, there is no excuse for a cheque being sent out Tuesday that should have been sent out

last Friday. There is just no excuse, unless there was an investigation going on. At that point that person should have been told we are investigating you. There might be another source of income or there might be some circumstances. To pick up the phone and make one little phone call is ridiculous, but it goes on frequently.

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Chairman, I don't think there is any need to say anything to that except that we agree that it is inexcusable.

I think the bulk of our staff indicate their support for that kind of thinking. During the mail strike that went on just recently, our staff undertook to hand deliver thousands of cheques and get them there ahead of time.

Mr. Martel: They did an excellent job.

Mr. Anderson: Perhaps 99 per cent of the staff agree with that and, if the other one per cent don't, it should be simply no more than an administrative error. Those things can't be excused except to be cut down. That's the only answer.

Mr. Martel: Again, Mr. Anderson, my complaints aren't so much against the ministry and what they are doing. My complaint is against what happens at general welfare offices across this province. Perhaps one of the reasons I am so down on them is that the next point spells it all out as to what is happening in general welfare. The Hanson report states:

Assistance should be provided in a manner that is positively supportive of human dignity. Discourtesy, discomfort, harassment or condescension directed toward an applicant or a recipient is inexcusable.

I want to tell you in my experience with local welfare people it's all there. Those of you on this staff should know that I ultimately come to the minister. You realize the frustration I've had because I think people are destroyed in general welfare across this province. I am not just pointing out the Sudbury area.

I think people are degraded when they go on welfare beyond all belief. I think there are people who are totally destroyed today the second they go on welfare. The stigma that surrounds welfare is unbelievable. The misconception in the public mind is there that everybody on welfare is a parasite. I don't know what we can do to overcome it.

The minister's other colleagues are wont frequently to publicize their own ministry

and what they're doing and doing some PR job work. I remember the Minister of Transportation and Communications doing it last year. I suggested last year to this minister that this ministry might just start to use its good offices to present the facts about those people who are on welfare because there isn't one of us in here who doesn't know what people think about people who are drawing welfare or what they think they know about people who are on welfare. The attitude in the public mind is that they are all parasites, every last one of them. It doesn't matter whether they are crippled, blind, handicapped or sick for a while; they are all parasites. We do nothing, and we have the statistics available, to overcome that.

I'm afraid I'm not very receptive to people who come to my office to tell me about all the welfare recipients being parasites. Immediately, I start to throw the studies at them and tell them to read this and this and this and then come back and tell me they're all parasites. I am saying not only the public crucifies these people but my experience in general welfare is that they are destroyed right there. They lose their self-respect so badly under general welfare because of the way they are abused that there is no incentive to get them off general welfare. They are so totally destroyed they almost hibernate.

And it is not changing. Anyone who thinks it's changing I think is just not with it. I don't know how we overcome that, but (a) we have to improve the general welfare scene—that's why I'm so insistent that it become provincial—and (b) what this ministry has to do, as other ministries, is get some type of campaign which indicates that a very, very small fraction of the people, in fact, take the system for a ride.

I'm not saying there aren't people on it illegitimately. It's like everything else; there are. But you don't put the 98.5 per cent who are legitimately entitled to it and need it—short term—in with the 1.5 per cent. That's the figure I've seen mostly; 1 and 1.5 per cent. We have to do something about it.

I had a businessman write me recently and he was really ripping off some young man in Markstay, a small community. He was separated from his family and both were drawing welfare. I wasn't very receptive to his letter. He has since joined the Conservative Party, by the way. I made a real impression on him.

I told him I thought if he was as interested in the people who don't pay their taxes fully, as reported in 1967—the wealthy who

fail to disclose 50 per cent of their income—or if he was as interested in the oil companies who pay six per cent tax, and he was willing to express his concern about that in public, then I would support him regarding this young man. Until he was willing to look at it, I felt he just was out to get people who were on welfare.

Needless to say, he is now a member of your party. He's not a member of mine. I feel much better for it that I don't have him with me. I wouldn't take his nonsense. But that is the attitude that prevails. That's digressing for a moment.

I want to know what's being done to improve the delivery of service at the general welfare level in those offices in the municipality. I've read the stories of what goes on in Hamilton. My friend on my left here knows. He has read them too, I'm sure, where people sit like cattle.

Mr. J. R. Smith: That is the municipal office.

Mr. Martel: That's right. That's exactly what I'm talking about.

Mr. J. R. Smith: I've heard they have improved it.

Mr. Martel: Slightly, yes. But it isn't a place you would want to go for assistance, John, even on short terms. That is very strongly put. Just listen to the words that that task force used: "discourtesy, discomfort, harassment and condescension." That's pretty strong language. They didn't come to that conclusion, I suspect, because what they met out there was very good; I suspect they came to that conclusion because they were very, very concerned about what they saw and heard. I want to know what we're doing to overcome it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I think you are generalizing; because I've visited several myself, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Martel: Sure I am.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I went to Windsor and I've visited others, and I found them very satisfactory.

Mr. Martel: Why don't you and I grow a beard for a week?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I'm not disputing you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Martel: No, no. We'll get a little scruffy; we'll get some old clothes. And with

them not knowing that the minister's coming, you and I head off for a week after the estimates are over and go in and apply for assistance in a variety of locations. Are you willing to do that?

Mr. J. R. Smith: There are enough panhandlers in this city already.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: If time permits, I would welcome that opportunity.

Mr. Martel: And you will find, Mr. Minister, that it does happen. You just have to talk to people.

Mr. J. R. Smith: I would suggest, Mr. Minister, there are too many panhandlers in the city.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Pardon?

Mr. J. R. Smith: I would suggest there are too many panhandlers in this particular city already, without another two.

Mrs. Campbell: I wonder why we always seem to hit Toronto when we have so many of the problems with it in other parts of Ontario.

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Chairman, I think Mr. Martel has indicated the biggest problem is not so much in—and I wouldn't deny those things do happen in municipal welfare offices, but I suspect those kinds of attitudes exist in the staff of the province as well. They probably exist in the minds of any percentage of the population.

I think your original comment was that this is a state of mind that is common throughout the total community. As long as there are people from a variety of cultural backgrounds located in Canada who have been brought up with this kind of an attitude toward the welfare recipient, with all of the preconceptions they have, then a lot of the things that are considered to be harassment at the municipal level, or at the provincial level, are probably things that, in another atmosphere or in another kind of a dealing at the human relations level, would be accepted as something other than a harassment of the welfare recipient.

I think everybody is familiar with rudeness on the part of individual civil servants in almost any part of government which they don't attribute to their status of welfare recipient. I think if you go to the tax collection office you might be treated badly. If you go to the health department or have a health inspector come into your barbershop, he might treat you badly. But because of your

own preconception and your own acceptance of your position, you are able to react better there and accept this as not a harassment due to the welfare condition.

I think we have encouraged the municipalities through their standards committee, through their association, to try to live up to some of the kinds of recommendations that are made in the Hanson report. The recommendations originally were probably made in many cases by people to the municipal administrators who participated in the report's findings.

It is something that is not going to be dealt with in the short term because it's the whole cultural and social pattern of the country that you are dealing with. You had the same kinds of reaction just recently during the postal strike, when numbers of people didn't bother to go down for their unemployment insurance cheques. This could be fanned into a whole attitude against those people without relating it to the fact that there was no compulsion to do that; if they had working wives or working husbands presumably they weren't under a stress to pick up a cheque on that day. But immediately public reaction is evidenced against the kind of people who receive a cheque from the government.

The only way, I think, you can change this is to bolster, as you have said, the attitudes of people who have to accept assistance, to understand their reasons themselves, and to assist them to accept their own position on public assistance. Then we must try, to the degree that we have and to a greater degree, to crack down on any type of people who use the issue of public assistance as a weapon for harassment.

And this certainly gets back to your other question of delaying a cheque. If a cheque is delayed through administrative error or for some similar reason, then there is not much you can do about that, but if it's found that people are using that as a weapon for harassment, then certainly that has to be eliminated. Beyond that I don't know how we could, in the short term, do very much more.

Mr. Martel: The other thing, of course—I thought you were going to go on to the fifth point that it isn't just a wicket for getting funding; it's more than cash. That's what I am really building to in this ministry, I guess; that's what I am trying to lead to as I probe the background and try to get the—

Mr. Chairman: Yours is still on the same topic?

Mr. B. Newman: On the same topic.

Mr. Martel: Okay, go ahead.

Mr. B. Newman: Before you go on, I wanted to bring to the attention of the minister and his officials the study conducted by St. Clair College on just this, the attitudes concerning recipients of welfare. It points out just exactly what has been discussed here; that regardless of the need there, the individual who is receiving some type of assistance—be it provincial, be it federal, be it municipal—is, in the eyes of too many, a chiseller; he is taking advantage of the system. They don't look upon the need that is there. They don't look upon the circumstances, but have the idea that, well, someone is getting something and in their mind it's for nothing.

What Mr. Anderson mentions is really the truth. And how you can change the attitudes of the public, I don't know.

Mr. Morningstar: That's what I would like to know too.

Mr. Martel: I think one of the ways, of course, is statements from the minister. Other ministers use public relations to formulate attitudes. It seems to me the public might be made aware that only a very small minority take the system for a ride, really.

When we read about the unemployment insurance fiasco, the few who were caught taking it for a ride are the ones who get the press. The Swadron task force reported that as well. We have got to counterbalance that, and maybe as some of us suggested last year, the minister should have an item in his budget for an advertising campaign, exactly as we did try to prove that the GO-Urban system up here, was viable. The ministry spent the money because it wanted to correct an error in the public mind.

It seems to me we could correct an error in the public mind by presenting the breakdown of a programme for the people on FBA and give the list of how many are blind, and how many are handicapped, how many are mentally retarded and so on. I'd run it for a week or so. We do it for everything else except this which is probably the most vital area—human dignity. We should show the possibility of retraining and getting these people back into the mainstream of life.

It seems to me we should be taking the initiative to assist these people not only directly but also by moulding public attitudes which are healthy toward assisting these people. To let it sit unanswered gives credence to the fact that everyone on it is taking

it for a ride. I think maybe an advertising campaign could do it. It certainly couldn't hurt.

Mr. B. Newman: There isn't one of us, including members on all sides of the House, who doesn't get the comment, "So-and-so is chiselling. I know so many who are chiselling," but as soon as you ask them to give the names and addresses all of a sudden, it's "I don't want to be a stoolie."

Mrs. Campbell: In writing.

Mr. B. Newman: They say, "I don't want to be a stool-pigeon." I can recall in my day I have had, I think, only three who have named them. I brought them to the attention of the ministry and not one of the three was found to be doing what the so-called informant said he was doing. This attitude permeates even students attending our high school system who say "Everyone is taking Community and Social Services and/or welfare for a ride."

We have to change that attitude and as the member for Sudbury mentions I think there will have to be a real selling job on the part of your ministry to inform the public that people in these dire straits aren't there because they want to be there. They are there because of misfortunes of all types—whether it be health, employment or otherwise—and they are entitled to what they are receiving. They would prefer, in 99 per cent or 98 per cent of the instances, to be gainfully employed rather than receiving this type of assistance.

Mr. Martel: The other thing it does, of course, Mr. Minister, is make it credible when you go to the public and the public realizes that you are spending half a billion dollars and you want to raise another, let's say, \$100 million for spending on services. They won't object to it.

They resent paying welfare now without the facts. When they hear the government is spending yet more money to retrain people, to relocate people, to assist handicapped people, there is real resentment. "There go my tax dollars"—we have all heard it.

What I am saying is that if they realized the facts there wouldn't be the resentment and it is going to be easier for the government to spend money to rehabilitate people. If not, we are going to be confronted with the problem of public resentment over the government spending money to rehabilitate.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, when I was at Metropolitan Toronto some people came in to see us; they were trying to combat this very thing, in this case in the United States.

Frankly, I, am not convinced that by publishing this sort of thing the ministry will get through. I'm willing to have them do it but what they did in this case—and what I referred to earlier on—was they set up a programme involving the volunteers in the community. Of course, it had to be done on a voluntary basis for the welfare recipients as well because they had to agree to having this kind of co-operation.

What happened in this case—and what Metro hoped would happen there—was that as the community became involved with the welfare recipients, it not only gave strengths to them in what we called the Auntie Mame kind of assistance—because so many of the poor never seem to have relatives who can help them the way we are helped by relatives in times of trouble—it found, according to the reports we had, that this was very successful. I wouldn't know how you would do it except at a local level, but it could be done at a local level with either municipal or provincial assistance.

I think one of the problems, of course, is that there is a very real anxiety on the part of the trained social worker if you suggest that this should happen, in view of the fact that the social worker in either the municipality or the provincial government really isn't fulfilling the function of a social worker because they don't really have time. Particularly in the municipal area they become investigators more than anything else and I deeply resent it.

I think that people in a community have to learn to know the problem and to know them at first hand, and I think that you can set this sort of thing up. I'd love to see it tried at least on a trial basis in one area of the province to see whether anything like that could overcome this kind of feeling.

But I think part and parcel of this kind of government approach to the recipient is the fact that—for instance, in one case in my riding; no, not in my riding; actually it was someone I knew who didn't live in my riding—for five solid months she put in, on a monthly basis, a change of address. And every month she had to call and she then had to go up to the office to collect the cheque because they had sent it to the wrong address. I called before the sixth month and asked if there weren't some way to straighten it out and it was straightened out.

This again is an indication of a lack of concern, as I see it, because surely somebody must be able to get into your system in order to ensure that such information is corrected. In one case it was a registered letter that was sent, but it made no difference whatsoever, it still went to the wrong address. I've reason to believe that perhaps in that particular office there will be some changes made.

But it shouldn't require that kind of dealing to get people the kind of assistance they need, and certainly in my view the recipients—and I would say municipal as well as provincial—do have to suffer tremendously in long waits, in waiting in circumstances which are very poor and where there is no element of counselling whatsoever with problems.

I think one of the cases that I drew to your attention and to Mr. Anderson's, that came to me through the court, was a simple kind of case where, if somebody had had some concern, they might well have overcome some of the problems. But, as you know, for so long both provincial and municipal people were telling women who were seeking welfare, "Don't let your husband know where you are because you won't be able to get him into court on desertion."

This was the kind of thing that went on. That is not a concern for a family or people. This has to be stopped and I'm wondering if there is no way of screening people who are going to be meeting the public to ensure that they have some concern for people, rather than that they regard this as a reasonably secure job with reasonable hours and so on. That should be, surely the criterion. There isn't one of us who can't give you chapter and verse of the wrong person in the area of meeting the public in the welfare relationship.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I appreciate the very constructive comments of the various members, and we certainly are in agreement with changing the attitude of the public toward those who are on social assistance. It's certainly a very small percentage who are abusing it. We are, in our ministry, taking some positive steps. I am told that at all of our conferences we have displays on the welfare myth. Also we are in the process of making a film on this question of changing attitudes to inform the public of the facts. I am told that there is a film that has been produced with the work activity of the Metro Toronto group. Also, more important, we have

a programme of informing our younger people through the educational system as to the facts.

You know, people generalize about welfare. They don't differentiate the different types. For instance, of those who are receiving social assistance under the Family Benefits Act; two-thirds, if not more—maybe three-quarters—are permanently unemployable. For those who are on general assistance, the average is about three months; they are only there between positions. So we will make a real effort to try to correct this myth about the large numbers who are using the welfare system.

Mr. D. M. Deacon (York Centre): How do you propose to make that effort? What sort of effort do you think would bear some fruit and actually make a change in the impression of the public? How would you go about it?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, as I mentioned, there are various means, Mr. Deacon. There are films—

Mr. Deacon: Just through films?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: —and there are school programmes. We are using whatever media are available, such as conferences and so on. Maybe we should publish, for instance, the fact that at the present time the number of those on general welfare is very low; in some areas I believe it's only one or two per cent. We get this information periodically through our research branch, but maybe we should publish it more and make it known.

Mr. Deacon: Would you think it might be worthwhile to prepare an ad or two containing some of these facts? Maybe a newspaper ad or two of this sort might be one that you wouldn't be criticized for by the opposition, because we feel some of the ads put out by the government are promoting things that we think have much less reason to be promoted than this does.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, we are certainly prepared to look into it further—

Mr. Deacon: Some of the facts about welfare—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: —and we appreciate the recommendations that have been made.

Mr. Deacon: Some of the facts about welfare are just not known by the general public, and as I go about I find the view that has been expressed here in the last half hour is very prevalent. Just on the last day or two

I have been talking to a lot of people, and they do not understand the very small percentage of people who are actually not deserving of the assistance.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, may I suggest that I believe a greater emphasis on preventive programmes would perhaps be a real answer to this problem. As far as I can remember, I think I was saying that in 1960 about the Metro Children's Aid Society, that they should have more funds for prevention. I have been saying it so long and nothing ever seems to happen. Perhaps if we could prevent some of these things we wouldn't have this type of attitude.

Mr. Chairman: Anyone else on item 1?

Mr. Martel: I just have a couple of minor points, one of them is very minor—prevention. Miss Crittenden mentioned last night that there were a couple of work activity programmes. Specifically how many are there? Everything I am trying to talk about ties in. I started with the new ministry and how it will work in the community, then dealt with the recommendations and the observations that would ensure we stop stigmatizing people and encourage them to get back into the work field. I want to talk for a few moments about prevention and work activities which will further promote that. I want to know how many programmes we are talking about. How many work activity programmes is the province sponsoring?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We have several—

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Go ahead, Miss Crittenden.

Miss Crittenden: If you have the information, fine. I was going to say that that information is in another vote.

Mr. Martel: Okay.

Miss Crittenden: And the person who normally would have it, isn't here anyway.

Mr. Martel: Okay, the only reason I bring it up now is that it's part of the five points that I think have to change in the ministry in order to move to prevention.

There is one area I want to talk about that is really disturbing to me. It is an entire area and it deal with the native people of Ontario.

I want to talk about Manitoulin Island for a moment, Mr. Minister, if I might, because it is a policy decision. I have been writing

for the better part of a year to your colleagues, the Treasurer (Mr. White) and the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Bernier), asking them to sit down with the federal people to make Manitoulin Island into a federal-provincial park.

You are going to say: "What has that got to do with me?" You have 13 per cent welfare there, and it is there constantly; and it is native people. Having visited it a number of times, I think Manitoulin Island has to be the most beautiful place in the province. If we move to a federal-provincial park, as is done in other areas, backed with an official plan, then the people who would be employed to look after a park would be the native people. It is in their line. It seems to be a real area—and I haven't been able to crack your colleagues.

The Treasurer keeps sending it over to the Minister of Natural Resources, who keeps telling me he wants to buy one portion or one end of the island from the paper company that was up there.

Mr. Minister, I am convinced that the only answer—and I am not being paternal, because I don't want to tell the native people what they should do; I think that has to be a decision for native people—but we have to provide an opportunity, and I guess that is what I am driving at when I talk about prevention and getting people back into the work force. We as a government, I think, have to provide opportunities. There seems to me to be a logical place for one to start with a logical suggestion. Based on statistics from monthly reports—I guess it was in January or February that I was looking at them—there is a constant 13 per cent on welfare. This happens to be an ideal opportunity for providing the type of work programme that is self-sustaining and meaningful, and isn't demeaning.

I hear all kinds of people telling me: "Well, these people who are on welfare, we should give them a broom and have them sweep the street." I am sure all of us have heard that. That isn't the type of work that has any meaning for anyone. I think the government and this ministry, if it is going to get people re-engaged in the everyday life of this society, have to do it through very selective and very carefully planned projects.

But that project is a natural, Mr. Minister, which I draw to your attention. You are aware of the area. You were Minister of Lands and Forests at one time. You know the native people probably better than I do,

in that I don't have any reserves in my area; although I have visited many. You know that their inclination is toward that sort of life. That way we wouldn't be handing them anything and saying: "Here, from the fatherly approach, we want you to do this." We would be providing an opportunity.

I put it to you for your consideration in this area—because it would be a policy decision, and not when we get to that part of community services. I want to see if you can bring some influence to bear, because it happens to be an absolutely beautiful part of this province. It should be preserved and not exploited the way they are trying to do up there now, Mr. Minister. They wanted to establish a little "Coney Island" on it, and we managed to get that stopped about a year ago. There were a number of people working on it.

I went to see Carter Bay and I haven't seen anything in the province that matches it. I really haven't. I haven't seen anything in much of Canada that matches Carter Bay for its aesthetic quality.

But that is the sort of prevention programme or work activity that the provincial government must get into. It is one way of starting people back—maybe that is a stepping stone to something significant for them in the future. But not to do anything—and I am afraid the ministry doesn't have that much, and that is why I asked. If we were to put down the number of people in work activity projects, I suspect if we had 150 that would be it. That is an area that can be looked into.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I agree with the hon. member that Manitoulin Island has a tremendous potential in tourism. The fact that there are so many native people living in the area, this would be a most suitable way of employing them. I would be pleased to work with my colleague, the Minister of Natural Resources, in bringing about the provincial park, or as you refer to it, a national park, which of course would have to be a federal-provincial undertaking.

Mr. Martel: Right from the beginning I suggested it to the Treasurer and the Minister of Natural Resources as a federal-provincial park. When 13 per cent of the people on the island are welfare recipients, it seems to me to be an ideal project to establish.

Mr. J. R. Smith: It is 27 per cent—

Mr. Martel: Make it a whole park.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As you know, our chairman is in the agriculture field and there are tremendous agricultural lands in the area. You are not suggesting that the whole island be a park?

Mr. Martel: What I have suggested to the Minister of Natural Resources and the Treasurer is that you make the entire island into a federal-provincial park. I knew that the farmers would worry about it; so what I suggested was that there should be an official plan immediately established so that you would retain the industries that are there. There are some small pulp and paper industries. The entire island wouldn't have to be a wilderness park.

One takes it and designates the whole area and applies the multi-use concept that the minister, when he was Minister of Lands and Forests, started to introduce for other parks. That would also, if you had an official plan, keep viable the agriculture that is already there. What you do is you prevent an invasion of what's going on, that is, most of the land being purchased by outside interests.

You are going to destroy the farming industry up there if you don't get an official plan and you are going to destroy it if you get the type of industry that wants to move in, such as in Carter Bay. You are going to destroy the small tourist industry as well because there are a lot of small tourist operators. There are no large tourist operations on Manitoulin. In this way, what you do extra is you protect all that and if you have a federal-provincial park you utilize a lot of native people who could in fact be self-sustaining in the process. All of it has to come together, the official plan and everything, otherwise it would be a useless exercise.

Mr. Chairman: Anyone further on item 1? Shall item 1 carry?

Item I agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Item 2.

Mrs. Campbell: On the board of review, Mr. Chairman, I am interested to note that now the decisions of this board will be published and distributed to appropriate agencies and interest groups. I would like very much to have the opportunity to see the decisions or a sample of decisions.

I have been torn in thinking about this board of review. The way it operated in the past, there was very little as a guideline for someone to appear before it. I am interested to know into what depth you go in publish-

ing the decisions and whether anyone learns from the decisions the type of approach that is taken. I had felt, I must say, that we certainly had to have some provision for open hearings. Yet I am concerned about the confidentiality of an individual in the circumstances. Could I have some idea of the type of content of these decisions?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes. I didn't bring my book with me to show you the type of decisions. They give a full explanation. The names of the appellants, of course, are deleted.

Mrs. Campbell: Of course, they should be.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We have with us Mr. Frank Mulrooney, the secretary to the board of review, and Mrs. Brown, one of the members.

Mr. F. Mulrooney (Executive Secretary, Board of Review): The full decision is published and the names deleted.

Mrs. Campbell: When you say the decision, do you also relate the circumstances?

Mr. Mulrooney: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: Anyone looking at it can get some guidelines as to how to proceed before it?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, we would be pleased to send to Mrs. Campbell copies of the decisions, which would give her information on just what information is given in the decisions.

Mrs. Campbell: Could I know how people are advised about the functions of this board? I note that in 1973-1974 there were 1,445 requests for a hearing, and you held 1,303 hearings. The balance were resolved by adjournment, agreement or withdrawal.

I must say that particular wording left me a little disturbed. Does it mean you kept adjourning them so long the people decided they'd quit? Or what does it mean?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Every effort is made, Mrs. Campbell, to try to resolve the issues in question. Our district directors and others work very closely, so that is why of this number, 1,440, there were 137 resolved.

Mrs. Campbell: The only thing I'm asking is on the question of adjournment; one would hope that what we really mean is that they were resolved by agreement or withdrawal, and not by adjournment.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No, I would think so. They were withdrawn with the agreement of the appellant.

Mrs. Campbell: I'm sorry, I haven't gotten through. I would like to be assured that people who apply are not put off to the point where they become weary in the service and give up. I must say, if I could point it out to you, under the heading "1973-1974 accomplishments," it has that kind of inference. It simply says they were "resolved by adjournment" and then "agreement or withdrawal."

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Perhaps Mr. Mulrooney could elaborate.

Mr. Mulrooney: Mr. Chairman, on that; adjournment means that in the report the board received from the director there's an indication there is a further step to be taken. It may be additional medical evidence or something that in fact has been submitted to the board members at the hearing that has a direct bearing on the matter. In such a case the board may say: "We will adjourn this hearing now, if you agree, and we will let the director have this information, because that is the information that has been lacking to reach the decision or make the adjustment." The notice of decision is then given. It may be as an interim decision, noting the adjournment, but then if the matter is thus considered settled satisfactorily the person will not ask to resume the hearing.

Mrs. Campbell: Thank you. Then, Mr. Chairman, it states there were 1,303 hearings. Could I know how many of those were successful hearings from the point of view of the recipient?

Mr. Mulrooney: On the decisions on appeal, Mrs. Campbell, there were 443 of the 303 granted and there were 860 denied.

In addition to that there were some where the appeal was denied, but there were other measures recommended.

Mrs. Campbell: There were 443 of the 1,303—not 303—that were successful?

Mr. Mulrooney: Right.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: In percentages, 34 per cent were granted.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Smith.

Mr. J. R. Smith: Mr. Chairman, I'm very interested in the remarks that have been read from the Hanson task force report by the hon. member for Sudbury East. I'm glad I'm here today when this item of the board of

review comes up, because on occasion I have referred some of the very tough chestnuts, more or less, in social assistance cases to the board of review. I would just like to share with the hon. members this afternoon one instance of the humane approach of this group, their interest; and co-operation from Mr. Mulrooney, the secretary. This particular case involved a woman with a very serious disease that prevents her from taking public transport; even to ride in an automobile is a difficulty. They were aware of her physical condition, and decided on their own to hear her case in her own home. I was able to sit in with the two members of the board of review around the table in that woman's kitchen, with a friend to give her moral comfort and assistance. To me, that is the kind of thing I like to see in practice; I think it is a real credit to this ministry.

I am also very pleased to see that in any of the board of review cases I have attended, there always seems to be a woman as a member of the board of review. I don't know how many women there are on the board, but there always seems to be one in attendance. There is a very good balance of compassionate people.

Mr. Chairman: Any comment, Mr. Minister?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No; thank you, Mr. Chairman; and I would thank Mr. Smith.

Mr. B. Newman: Is the minister going to reply now?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Reply to what?

Mr. B. Newman: May I ask the minister, in the case of a senior citizen who finds himself without sufficient funds, who applies to the municipality for supplementary assistance and is denied that, can he appeal to the board of review?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I believe not, because supplementary and special assistance is at the discretion of the local municipality, but I could be corrected on that.

Mr. Martel: How many municipalities have ever used that discretion to allow the person to appeal?

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, who uses the discretion? How does the individual have a chance to prove his case?

Mr. Martel: Coming back to general welfare again, the question is, how many municipalities in the past year have advised such persons there is discretion for the municipality

to allow that to be appealed? How many times has that occurred?

Mrs. Campbell: That isn't where the discretion is. The discretion is to grant the assistance or not.

Mr. Martel: Oh no. Wait a minute. Page 18 of the—

Mr. B. Newman: Not up to the one who is receiving old age security and the supplement.

Mr. Martel: It says in this report: "Ontario is the only province which does not provide for a review or appeal of decisions of special assistance which may be provided at the option of municipalities." It also indicates—and I will try to find it—that the municipality, if I understand it correctly, has the discretion to allow it to be appealed.

Mrs. Campbell: No.

Mr. Martel: You are the only province that doesn't do it then, if I understand it correctly?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That's right. Special assistance and supplementary aid are discretionary.

Mr. Martel: And you are the only province that doesn't allow it to be appealed?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, as was indicated earlier in my remarks, Mr. Chairman, social assistance is administered in various ways throughout Canada. You mentioned Quebec; the government there, I believe, administers 100 per cent of general welfare. In our province it is mainly administered through municipalities.

Mr. Morningstar: Mr. Chairman, they can appeal to your department and you will send out a field worker to investigate the need for a supplement, don't you? You go back and check with the local people, don't you?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, that's right. We make every effort—it is very seldom that a municipality would refuse aid to a needy person.

Mr. Morningstar: Oh, once in a while they do, but then I write to your office in St. Catharines.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That's right. They often get in touch with us, and we in turn intercede and make representations.

Mr. Morningstar: Yes, they will come back and check on it.

Mr. B. Newman: Yes, but why should that have to take place? Why should a member have to intercede on behalf of a constituent because all of a sudden a municipality doesn't want to help him get teeth? They'll say: "We can only give you \$20 a month for X number of months or indefinitely." In the meantime, the fellow can't pay the dentist; and in some instances the dentist will not provide the dentures until he gets all the money.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Newman, as I indicated earlier in the discussions today, prescribed drugs now are mandatory. Well, on April 1 it was applied to those on family benefits; it will be mandatory to everyone on general welfare assistance as of Sept. 1, 1974. Hopefully, we would like to see this extended to dentures and glasses, and so forth. We are moving in that direction.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Minister, your supplementary assistance is to provide some of that, is it not?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes. Again, Mr. Chairman, at the present time it's discretionary.

Mr. Martel: Can you appeal supplementary assistance and not special assistance?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I believe they can appeal neither; neither supplementary nor special assistance.

Mr. Martel: Why is that?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Maybe Mr. Rutherford or Mr. Mulrooney will answer—Mr. Rutherford is the director of our legal branch.

Mr. Morningstar: He's the legal man.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: He's the legal man.

Mr. D. Rutherford (Director, Legal Services): The supplementary aid and special assistance under the General Welfare Assistance Act are given as a matter of discretion, as was pointed out. That is, the municipality may refuse to give it and is not compelled to do so. If those two classes of assistance were subject to appeal that would mean that the appeal board could order a municipality to pay; and of course that would exclude the discretion. So appeal would really be inconsistent. It would no longer be discretionary, it would be mandatory.

Mr. Martel: No, it wouldn't be mandatory, because it would only be so if the board ruled in favour of the applicant.

Mr. Rutherford: There are no rules, you see. The discretion is unfettered.

Mrs. Campbell: You cannot rule in favour of an applicant if there's no right. If they have no absolute rights you can't rule in their favour.

Mr. Martel: They don't have rights for welfare either in some instances.

Mr. Rutherford: But supplementary aid and special assistance is not a matter of right. That is—

Mr. Martel: Isn't the real culprit, where it really originated, the fact that the ministry wasn't paying part of the subsidy for special assistance and they didn't want to be caught in that bind? If you are funding supplementary assistance 30 per cent, then in fact the province is contributing. If you appeal against special assistance, then the province can't determine it because they are not funding any of it. Isn't that the real issue?

Mr. Rutherford: Theoretically, the sharing could be the same and if the special assistance was mandatory it could be subject to appeal without any change in the cost-sharing arrangements.

Mr. Martel: Yes, but isn't the problem under special assistance; because the province doesn't contribute its 30 per cent the province didn't want to take the right to say you must allow the appeal tribunal the right to authorize payment, because in fact they weren't making any monetary input towards that special assistance?

Mr. Rutherford: I don't think I'd better answer the reasons for it. All I can say is that it's possible for the—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Take the case of supplementary aid. The 20 per cent is paid by the municipality and the balance, 80 per cent, is paid by the federal and provincial governments. And you cannot appeal; again, supplementary aid is discretionary.

Mr. Martel: Is Ontario the only province that does that?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As I mentioned earlier, the question of social assistance varies in each province.

Mr. Martel: You mean you couldn't possibly have a big enough review committee if you said the recipient had the right, because so many are turned down when it comes to supplementary aid and special assistance you'd be deluged with complaints.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As indicated earlier, drugs are mandatory for family benefit recipients and will be mandatory for general welfare recipients at Sept. 1, 1974. And we will enlarge benefits in that area.

Mr. Martel: In the process, though, a lot of people go without what they need.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Not necessarily. Again, it's attitudes. The great majority of municipalities in the Province of Ontario are providing the needs of those who need them under supplementary and special assistance. It's a very small percentage which are not.

Mr. Martel: I would like to see the breakdown of what the various municipalities you are talking about have allocated for special assistance and supplementary aid.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We will send it to the hon. member, Mr. Chairman. There has been an increase in the last year in special and supplementary assistance. There has been a substantial increase throughout the whole province in various municipalities in the amount of moneys they have allocated.

Mr. Martel: I think it was—what? I think the whole thing was, what?—\$6 million or something like that? That's just off the top of my head.

Mrs. Campbell: For what?

Mr. Martel: The increase in supplementary assistance and special assistance.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I am not sure what the hon. member is referring to.

Mr. Martel: The overall increase, what was it? The substantial increase, how much?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I say a substantial increase—we can get to these figures—by municipalities. What I am referring to is a substantial increase by municipalities in their budgets for special and supplementary assistance.

Mr. Martel: I'd like to see it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, we'll provide that.

Mr. Chairman: That covers that point then.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, that's right, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Martel: There are a couple of other points—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman, are you through?

Mr. B. Newman: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel.

Mr. Martel: I have several questions that I put to you last year, Mr. Minister, that are awaiting response. I thought I might just as well ask them here, as they come up here under board of review. Last year you promised to consider the payment of transportation costs for applicants who had to go before a board of review. Has that been introduced?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: If it's not implemented yet it soon will be. It's in the regulations now? Not yet?

Mr. Rutherford: Not yet. It will require an amendment to the Act, sir.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Will it require an amendment to the Act or just to the regulations?

Mr. Rutherford: No, to the Act.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: An amendment to the Act. We are in favour and I had given a directive some time ago to implement this. So this will be done this year.

Mr. Martel: Great. The second question is, you promised to look into having workers assist appellants to prepare their cases for the board of review. Frequently people are forced to go before the board of review and they have no expertise in presenting their case or compiling all the facts that might be necessary in order to establish that they have a legitimate claim.

There are a variety of voluntary groups that do try to assist but I am sure there are cases where it doesn't occur. You promised to look into possibly having a worker in each area who would help the person to prepare his case if he had no one else to do it. Many of us appear before boards and so on and assist people, but frequently there are those who have no one to go with them, who don't come to a member and don't know an active community group that would help them. Have you given any serious consideration to that, and what do you intend to do?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, our social workers are doing this now. If the appellant wishes the services of one of our social workers, we are prepared to provide them.

Mr. Martel: Are they advised of that at the time they are informed they are going to get a hearing?

Mr. Mulrooney: It is not uncommon for the field worker to help the person write out his request for a hearing in review, or actually to do it for him in some cases, and to come with him to the review and to help and counsel him through it.

Mr. Martel: But are all of those people who receive a notification that they are going to have a hearing advised that they can draw on your field workers to assist them?

Mr. Mulrooney: No, not by us.

Mr. Martel: Wouldn't that be a logical thing to do, to advise them that they can in fact, draw on a social worker in the ministry to help them prepare the case if they have no one else?

Mr. Mulrooney: I think that would have to be a matter for the director of the field services branch to advise.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It's a good recommendation, Mr. Chairman. We are prepared to look into it.

Mr. Martel: That way they'd know help was available. And I think if everything is prepared adequately it would save the board probing for information.

Mr. Morningstar: That's a pretty good point, Mr. Chairman. Are you making a note of that, Mr. Minister? It's a pretty good point.

Mr. Martel: They are all good points, Ellis.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would say, Mr. Chairman, our board of review is a very good board and we do our very best to provide the appellants with every assistance possible.

Mr. Martel: You promised a third point: that you would consider redesigning your application form to make it more meaningful.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: What is the criticism of the present application form?

Mr. Martel: I raised this last year and you promised to look into it and said you would advise me. I didn't like the makeup of the existing form. I thought it a horrendous form, really.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It's been done. The form has been amended.

Mr. Martel: Has it?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It provides four headings. A person may pick any one of four boxes dealing with refusal, reduction, cancellation or suspension and the amount of allowances. This is followed by a number of blank lines on which a person may amplify his complaint or raise any other subject bearing on his application or allowance.

Mr. Haggerty: You need to be a lawyer.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No. You see, we do try and—

Mr. Martel: I had to raise these points last year to prompt you to action, Mr. Minister. I am delighted to see that you are listening.

Mr. Morningstar: He always listens.

Mr. Martel: Maybe you will listen to the next one then. Maybe you will listen to putting on the board of review a number of other people other than those you have.

Saskatchewan, as you know, has had a board of review since 1959; but a little more advanced than us—

Mr. Haggerty: I am glad the member brought that up. Thatcher brought that in.

Mr. Martel: It wasn't from Thatcher. Isn't that the guy we got rid of after he had only been around for a little while?

Interjections by hon. members.

Mr. Martel: Now what I will quote wasn't written by the Saskatchewan government; it's a study by the Canadian Council on Social Development. It says:

The province has had an appeal system in operation since 1959. The right of a client to appeal is set out in the Saskatchewan Assistance Act on the grounds that are prescribed in the regulations under the Act. The procedure has three steps: An administrative review by the administrator of the welfare unit involved; an appeal to the local appeal board; and an appeal to the provincial welfare board. The right of appeal applies not only to dissatisfaction with a decision regarding an allowance, it applies where a person is not permitted to apply for assistance or is dissatisfied with treatment received from an employee.

And that is imperative if we are going to change what goes on in the municipal welfare offices. Do the clients in the province have the right at the present time to complain or appeal with respect to being abused, or otherwise, by someone in the local welfare office? Do you want to clean it up?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: By someone in the local welfare office?

Mr. Martel: From an employee.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, it is not a right written into legislation. But, in point of fact, some people have complained about their treatment. They usually write directly to the administration, either to the minister's office or to my office; and the matter is investigated and they are looked after. I don't think having a right written into legislation to appeal to a board of review would ensure their rights any more than we have been able to do.

Mr. Martel: I suspect, Miss Crittenden, that people would be somewhat more careful of the way they treated people if they knew. I know what you are saying to be precise, because I have gone to the minister when I have received complaints from areas far outside of my own. The minister has looked into them. And after he had looked into one, in fact, a young man was dismissed, I believe. I am not going to indicate the area and so on.

It just seems to me that if we want to ensure that what the Hanson task force spells out is going on in some areas, then this is one avenue for doing it. The staff could be well aware of the result if they became abusive.

Now I'm not saying the client isn't abusive to staff as well, on occasion. I know that goes on—it is not a one-way street. But it is just another way of ensuring that staff are going to deal with these people quite adequately. I don't think it is going on—and certainly the Hanson task force indicated it wasn't going on. You might include that in the items which can be appealed.

I will let you think about it until next year, how's that?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, as my deputy indicated, we have had good results in that and I'm not sure whether this is warranted.

Mr. Martel: No, you have not. The minister really doesn't believe that or he wouldn't have had the material I quoted and the strong language used by the Hanson task force. I remind the minister again: "Assistance should be provided in a manner that is positively supportive of human dignity"; or "discourtesy, discomfort, harassment and condescension should be done away with."

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, we are prepared.

Mr. Martel: It is not all peaches and cream.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We have an open mind on all these matters, and we are prepared to take a look at it.

Mr. Martel: I want to continue then. I will come back to that one. I want to finish up on the Saskatchewan plan. The report says:

The province has 11 welfare regions and two local units and each has a local advisory committee of nine persons, three of whom may function as a local appeals board. [This is the point I really wanted to stress.] Members of this advisory committee may include representatives of the community at large and may include representatives of client groups and municipally-elected people.

For example, one has an employed Indian and a mother's allowance recipient. Another has a child welfare ward who is a student. Another has a foster mother; these are in various areas. We don't have—or do we have—any clients on the review board? Do we have a client on the board?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, a former recipient.

Mr. Martel: A former client, right; we have one. I think there was some concern that the board of review should not be so centralized. Was it the Swadron task force which was critical of the board of review?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It made recommendations. It recommended regional boards.

Mr. Martel: Right. You are not going to move to regional?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We find that our board is a very efficient board. We have wide representation from northwestern, northeastern, all parts of Ontario; and it's working very efficiently. As a matter of interest, Mr. Chairman, there has been a decrease of 26.5 per cent in the number of applications for hearings in the past year.

As I mentioned, the board is working very efficiently. At the same time it could well be, as I indicated last year, that with decentralization and with more emphasis on our field presence, in time there—

Mr. Martel: You have local participation? something that—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It could be. This is

Mr. Martel: Finally, two short questions. Did we reach any stage this year when the decisions went beyond 40 days?

Mr. Mulrooney: The last figures aren't tabulated; we did in a few cases. I think last year there was something like 86 and this year the number would be about the same.

Mr. Martel: Right; but throughout it now, despite the decision—of course, one can wait for it—everyone who appealed received benefits until there was a decision on the appeal?

Mr. Mulrooney: For the most part; in some cases they wouldn't.

Mr. Martel: Now wait a minute. My understanding of the legislation is if someone appeals he's automatically given assistance until the decision has been reached on the appeal. Are you telling me there are people who made appeals and didn't get assistance?

Mr. Mulrooney: You have the example of a person who has \$2,000 or \$3,000 in the bank and has been refused because of that and has appealed the refusal. He isn't eligible; such a person would not get assistance pending an appeal.

Mr. Martel: I can understand that case; but if there is a loophole there, how many other loopholes are we talking about for non-payment?

Mr. Mulrooney: I think for the most part, Mr. Martel, the people awaiting the board who had a case or a reasonable case for assistance were receiving assistance.

Mr. Martel: There was no one left destitute, in other words?

Mr. Mulrooney: That's right.

Mr. Martel: That's what I am driving at.

Mr. Mulrooney: Yes, that would never happen.

Mr. Martel: Yes. I just wanted that assurance. Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell, do you have anything?

Mrs. Campbell: Nothing further.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to ask the minister if the board of review consists of nine members only or is it 13?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Thirteen members.

Mr. B. Newman: How many of the 13 are women?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Quite a large percentage; close to four.

Mrs. Campbell: Four? That's a big percentage.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I thought it was more than that.

Mrs. Campbell: That's a majority.

Mr. B. Newman: Do you intend to correct that?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would say that the four we have are really outstanding members.

Mr. B. Newman: There are more women who are also outstanding who could make a contribution.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, certainly; that's right.

Mr. Chairman, with the GAINS programme coming into being as of July 1, it could well be that we may have more hearings. If we do enlarge the board, I think it's an excellent recommendation that there be more ladies on the board.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, how many members of the board of appeal can speak languages other than English or French?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The last person we added can speak five languages. He's Mr. Uno Viegandt from Thunder Bay.

Mr. Mulrooney: Mr. Bender of Ottawa is trilingual. He speaks English, German and French.

Mr. B. Newman: Are there any Italian-speaking members on the board of review?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No.

Mr. B. Newman: Would you not consider varying the composition on the board of review so that all of the ethnic community has an opportunity, even if it is only for an on-call meeting? If they are holding the board of review in the city of Windsor, say, and the cases are primarily those of Italian extraction that are going to present their appeals, would you consider that there should be someone who can speak to them in their native tongue as a member of the board of appeal, possibly for meetings only at that given instance?

I think it would be a real advantage to the ministry and also to the individual making a presentation if that person could talk in

the native tongue rather than have his information relayed through an interpreter.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I think it's a very good recommendation that the Italian community be represented.

Mr. B. Newman: Next year when we are back in here we will see that actually is in operation?

Mr. Morningstar: Mr. Chairman, if the minister agrees to that, I think a couple of good representatives would be Mr. Desiri of St. Catharines and Mr. Alfieri. They would be a couple of great men on this board.

Mr. Martel: Do you know any Finns then, because I have a large Finnish community and I don't know any Finns?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Viegandt is Finnish.

Mr. Martel: We only have 34 or 36 ethnic groups in the Sudbury area.

Mr. Morningstar: We have about 50 in Welland, I think.

Mr. B. Newman: Mr. Chairman, have you considered having members of the board of review in other communities not permanently attached to the board of review? In other words, you might be taking two or three members of the board of review to hold hearings in London and then from there going into Windsor and holding hearings. You might have some residents from London who could be pro tem members of the board of review, and likewise in the Windsor area. I'm looking at it from an ethnic point of view.

Mr. Martel: It sounds like Saskatchewan which you want to talk about without mentioning.

Mr. B. Newman: That was because of Thatcher taking care of things.

Mr. Martel: In 1959 Thatcher was still in the doldrums.

Mrs. Campbell: Let us stop fighting elections here and get on with the business.

Mr. B. Newman: He gave you all the ideas and then you copied them.

Mr. Martel: It's the age of enlightenment, Mr. Minister.

Mr. B. Newman: Are you considering something like that?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No, we are not.

Mr. B. Newman: Then consider using more ethnic representation on it so that at least they can speak to the board of review in their own native tongue or their own original language.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I agree with the hon. member that there should be more representation from the ethnic groups.

Mrs. Campbell: Could we also consider the Portuguese and the Greek communities?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further on item 2?

Item 2 carried.

Mr. Chairman: Item 3, Mr. Deacon.

Mr. Deacon: There seems to be a lot of money spent here for the amount of money that is actually disbursed. There is only \$150,000 in the trust fund and to spend \$51,000 handling it—actually it is not that much when you take out that special transfer—seems to be rather large.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, the money in the trust fund, as you know, was left specifically for young widows of the First World War. We were able to get the terms of that trust changed but it still is for widows. The fund is in debentures and bonds. Last year to get revenue from that trust fund they would have had to sell certain bonds at a substantial loss. Rather than force them to sell bonds that would have matured in another year or so, we obtained money from the government to continue the operations of the Soldiers' Aid Commission.

Mr. Deacon: That's the \$25,000 item here?

Miss Crittenden: Yes, sir. That's correct.

Mr. Deacon: What I'm concerned about is the whole commission and its role. How does it work? For example, I thought the Army Benevolent Fund was the one that really co-ordinated assistance to veterans in addition to that which they get from their regular veteran allowances of one sort or another. It seems to me that this whole commission had a role that is duplicating others.

Miss Crittenden: Well, we can't disband the commission as long as they have the money to give to the widows.

Mr. Deacon: Couldn't the commission—

Miss Crittenden: You see, it was already amalgamated with the campaign fund.

Mr. Deacon: Yes.

Miss Crittenden: I think they will have used up the money in about another three years. But as long as that money is there, there is an obligation on the part of the government to see that it is given to widows.

Mr. Deacon: I didn't know whether the role or the responsibility could be transferred to an organization like the Army Benevolent Fund.

Miss Crittenden: No, we have tried to find out if we could do that. We cannot. That will was drawn up very tightly by the firm of lawyers that drew it up in 1919.

Mr. Deacon: It is strange that the government got itself into this sort of spot.

Miss Crittenden: We didn't get ourselves into it so much as the money was given to the government in 1919 or 1920. At that time it was a great deal of money, and the terms of the will specified that the money was to be disbursed to the young widows of the war of 1914-1918.

Mr. Deacon: Oh, I see. It is not then just the revenue from the fund. You are actually dispensing the capital as well.

Miss Crittenden: Yes, this is correct, and it has been decreasing. This year, because those bonds didn't mature at the right time, rather than sell them at a loss, they are using the capital.

Mr. Deacon: Yes, so in another two or three years—

Miss Crittenden: It will be gone.

Mr. Deacon: —the commission's work will be finished.

Miss Crittenden: And the commissioners are not paid. These people donate their time.

Mr. Deacon: I thought there were salaries; it says salaries here.

Miss Crittenden: That is for staff salaries for two people who have been with the commission since about 1935 or 1938. You see, once that money was given for those widows, it sort of generated a great deal of activity through the years. We even tried to get a ruling that that money could be disbursed to all the known widows of the First World War who lived in Ontario, but we were not even able to get that kind of an interpretation. So we have to continue

to disburse the money until it is gone. And it will be gone in another year or two.

Mr. Deacon: There are lots of very deserving cases, that need assistance, I am sure. But, as I say, most of those funds co-ordinate their efforts through the Army Benevolent Fund.

Miss Crittenden: Unfortunately the will tied us up; and it is long before my time. It tied the government up 50 years ago.

Mrs. Campbell: How did you get to know about it?

Miss Crittenden: Oh, all the Legions notify people; particularly if it is something that is outside of what the Legion would have money for, they notify people.

Mr. Morningstar: Mr. Chairman, I do a lot of work—and I guess Mr. Haggerty does too—in connection with these veterans' pensions and the Canada pension. I was wondering, if they are rejected by the Department of Veterans Affairs, if they qualify here? We get the odd rejection, you see, and it seems there are two similar programmes.

Miss Crittenden: The money is normally spent to assist people; and they could be on a pension. I will tell you the kinds of things that I have seen go by as expenditures from that fund. A person may be elderly and crippled, and they may pay for a homemaker; they may purchase wheelchairs or things that are outside of what they could receive, say, from the Department of Veterans Affairs. They pay for very useful and needed additions for these people. But it isn't to pay an allowance.

Mr. Deacon: About how much are they disbursing? Is it about \$50,000 or \$60,000 a year that they have been giving away? Is that about what they have been doing?

Miss Crittenden: I couldn't tell you that. It would vary considerably from year to year. The fund is audited by the Provincial Auditor, and we would have to find out what their disbursements had been over a number of years.

Mr. Deacon: I would be interested to get a record of the disbursements over the last few years.

Miss Crittenden: I would be glad to get it—

Mr. Deacon: Thank you.

Miss Crittenden: —but we would have to get it through the Provincial Auditor.

Mr. Chairman: Does item 3 carry?

Item 3 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: Shall item 4 carry?

Mrs. Campbell: Just a moment.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: I can't find my notes on this. If there is anyone else who wishes to speak, perhaps I would have time to find my notes.

Mr. Chairman: Anyone else? Mr. Bounsall.

Mr. E. J. Bounsall (Windsor West): I was interested on this item to inquire about the reason for the increase in the amount. I assume this is additional cost concerned with the reorganization.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes. The different formats this year are due to reorganization and it is a little difficult to sort of compare them with last year because all the staff salaries this year were placed in this main vote, 2601.

Miss Crittenden: Also in the administration costs the finance for administration from the mental retardation division has been added.

Mr. Bounsall: Roughly what—I guess I can find it if I leaf through the different coloured squares here and if I read it carefully enough—but how much is that? How much would that addition be?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: What is the question again, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Bounsall: The mental retardation section was brought over into the ministry. How much more is the administration on that?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The total programme is just under \$100 million. The question is, how much is the administration for the mental retardation programme?

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, \$30,201,000 is the administration cost of the mental retardation facilities that are schedule 1.

Mr. Bounsall: Something is wrong with the figures here, I think. We are talking about regional administration costs due to mental retardation services coming over, right? That's not \$30 million. Is it \$30 million?

Miss Crittenden: It is \$30,201,000. Now, if you are talking about finance and administration cost that was added to item 4 of this vote—

Mr. Bounsall: That's right.

Miss Crittenden: —it is \$859,000.

Mr. Bounsall: So \$859,000 of that \$30 million is added to this particular vote. Then, what has been cut from the vote? The estimate is only \$1.2 million, and last year's estimate was \$986,000, so there has been a drop in the regional administration costs from the rest of your programme. Am I correct?

Miss Crittenden: No.

Mr. Bounsall: Well, let me ask it again. Last year's estimate was \$986,000 and this year it's \$1.25 million. A portion of that, regional administration, comes from the mental retardation. Surely it isn't \$859,000 worth. If it is, then—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: What page are you—

Miss Crittenden: What are you—

Mr. Bounsall: Item 4, regional administration.

Miss Crittenden: No, the item is finance and—

Mr. Chairman: Financial and administrative services, vote 2601.

Mrs. Campbell: He is looking at last year and that is where it is confusing. Last year's partly compared under this item.

If you look at your green sheet, it does talk about the regional administration, but that appears, I thought, to be in the programme development administration, which is the next item. Am I wrong?

Miss Crittenden: It's in delivery.

Mr. P. Szego (Co-ordinator, Policy Secretariat): If you look, sir, in the thicker book, on page 18 you will find the breakdown of the finance and administration division in this year's estimates.

Mr. Bounsall: Okay.

Mr. Chairman: Anything further on item 4?

Mr. Haggerty: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Haggerty.

Mr. Haggerty: I was looking in your big thick blue book here, programme resource summary, and I was interested on page 15, in the bottom paragraph, trends and development: "Inflation coupled with continuing increased demands for government support tends to highlight the need for a new and more vigorous review of requests for funding."

Could we have a little more explanation of this comment at the bottom? It seems there is somebody in the ministry's office who is aware of some problems of which perhaps the committee is not aware. I thought we should have an explanation for it. What programmes do you have in mind?

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, when we received advice that we were to have the administration of the mental retardation facilities we were not aware, early in the year, that there were a number—I can't tell you the right number now—of schedule 2 facilities which operate on budgets. Previously, the Ministry of Health, which had a budget review office, reviewed the budgets of the schedule 2 institutions.

When we were to receive these institutions on April 1, the budgets had not been reviewed by Health so we have a number of private institutions operating on budgets which must be reviewed.

We established a budget review office. Not only will we review the budgets of eight facilities, we are also reviewing the budgets of the Children's Aid Societies. That's 52 budgets. Then we have the budgets of the family service agencies and the credit counselling agencies which again, operate on budgets which we approve and fund.

Previously, we were operating with transfer payments related to expenditures which had already been made. Now we have a number of agencies for which we are pre-approving budgets and which we are funding on budget pre-approval system. This is what this "trends and development" means.

Mr. Haggerty: How much money has been requested under the Day Nurseries Act, as mentioned in this particular vote? How many facilities in the Province of Ontario requested special aid for day nurseries?

Miss Crittenden: They would not come under the agency budget review—

Mr. Haggerty: Mentioned in this particular vote is the legislation administered. You've got the Development of Services Act, 1974, the Vocational Rehabilitation Services Act—there are about 10 of them listed here.

Miss Crittenden: What page are you looking at?

Mr. Haggerty: On 14. It deals with the financial and administrative services division. That's the reason I raised that particular question about the bottom of the paragraph.

Mrs. Campbell: Capital services.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: On page 24, the legislation administered includes the Child Welfare Act and this is where the Children's Aid Society budgets are being reviewed.

Mr. Haggerty: I'm referring to the minister's statement in the House the other day, and with the increased activity in day nurseries throughout the Province of Ontario, I was wondering how many requests have you had from municipalities to be involved in the day nurseries programme?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, the services to children and especially the day-care centres, will be coming up in not the next vote but the third vote, under social services. We will have that information. You're asking how many municipalities have requested—

Mr. Haggerty: Have requested involvement in the day nurseries programme in Ontario.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Quite a large number. We can get that information; we have that information.

Mr. Chairman: Can you have that ready for the vote?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, it really doesn't come under the special budget review.

Miss Crittenden: You're looking at the page on capital services.

Mr. Haggerty: That's right, and that's the vote we are dealing with.

Miss Crittenden: The capital services branch assists in building any facility under these Acts. As of April 1 this year, if there if a charitable institution to be built it will come under this branch. Once it is approved for building, they take over seeing it gets built. It's the same with child welfare. If there was a group home to be built, the architect and the engineers and the financial staff monitor getting the building built.

Mr. Haggerty: The vocational rehabilitation section apparently applies to this particular section.

Miss Crittenden: And workshops.

Mr. Haggerty: What involvement does your department have in this, along with the federal government? I noticed in one of your votes—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The vocational workshops? At the present time I don't think there is any funding for capital construction. We hope there will be. There is a special social services committee, but at the present time there is no assistance from the federal government, except maybe under, in special circumstances, CMHC. Normally, under our regular programmes, there isn't. Not for capital construction. There is, I believe, a sharing under the Canada Assistance Plan for the operating subsidies.

Mr. Deacon: Mr. Chairman, I am still not clear about the agencies. Are you speaking about agencies such as the family services bureau or those that also get funding from the United Appeal? Just what agencies are you referring to in this?

Miss Crittenden: We are talking about two things. One is on page 23 and the other is on page 24. Going back to you on the agency budget review, the Children's Aid Societies, the schedule 2 facilities for the mentally retarded, the credit counselling agencies, the family service agencies providing credit counselling, all have their budgets reviewed and they are paid on a pre-approved basis.

Mr. Deacon: So, in effect, these are agencies that are supported entirely by the government?

Miss Crittenden: No.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Children's Aid is about 70-80. Seventy per cent through us and 30 per cent through the—

Mr. Deacon: Rather than private support, I was wondering if they also include agencies that receive some of their support from the United Appeal?

Miss Crittenden: They could, especially if it were a family counselling agency.

Mr. Deacon: That is the one I was thinking about.

Miss Crittenden: That's right. And you would have credit counselling agencies, say in London or Brantford, that also might be funded by the United Appeal.

Mr. Deacon: Of course, but those appeals are also subject to budget review?

Miss Crittenden: We are only reviewing the budget as it pertains to the service that we are funding.

Mr. Deacon: I see. And the service you are funding, you are funding 100 per cent then, you mean?

Miss Crittenden: No, 60 per cent on credit counselling.

Mr. Deacon: What is concerning me is, the others who are doing the reviewing for the United Appeal may disagree with your review. How do you co-ordinate your reviews between the two reviewing bodies? Because if 40 per cent is coming from another source—

Miss Crittenden: Since we haven't been doing it before, it is a good point, Mr. Deacon, and since the director of our agency budget office is here she will take note of it to be sure that it is co-ordinated.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I believe it was only implemented in the last month or so, this special agency budget review office.

Miss Crittenden: We won't duplicate our efforts, we will co-ordinate them.

Mr. Deacon: I thought there was already a lot of work being done by the private agencies on their own budgets by the review agencies.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell?

Mrs. Campbell: Yes, it is on this point that I did want to ask a question. I noted from Hansard that my comment yesterday with reference to the mentally retarded seemed to indicate that I had not read my estimates. That was not the case.

What I was trying to get at is, would this review set a new policy in relation to the mentally retarded programme?

Miss Crittenden: No.

Mrs. Campbell: Then this won't be a place to discuss the problem of whether or not the family is going to be required to produce more funding for any of this?

Miss Crittenden: That should have been debated on the last vote.

Mrs. Campbell: What will be taken into consideration in this review of the mentally retarded?

Miss Crittenden: The total operational costs, not who contributes to them. At the moment we pay 100 per cent.

Mrs. Campbell: Thank you.

Mr. Chairman: Is there anything further on item 4?

Item 4 agreed to.

Mr. Chairman: I think this will probably be an appropriate time to break.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, I just want to say something.

Mr. Chairman: Okay. The committee will meet to consider the estimates at the end of the question period tomorrow. The item regarding the health bill which we were to meet on tomorrow morning will not go on tomorrow morning.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, I have got to fight a case before the Workmen's Compensation Board at 3 o'clock tomorrow. There are certain items that I want to discuss which are in this next vote.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: In the main vote, in the second vote; the income maintenance programme?

Mr. Martel: No, on the fifth point.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I see, items 5 and 6.

Mr. Martel: On programming. Could I ask the minister to indicate whether I could get in those briefly when I get back?

Mr. Haggerty: If the vote is open you might. You have members here who no doubt can carry on until you get back.

Mr. Martel: They're not going to carry on with a lot of malarkey.

Mr. Haggerty: If you're going to ask the Chair to do this, then it's going to open the door for continuous debate like this. Last year I had to be at the Department of Environmental Health and I missed certain votes here too. I accepted it.

Mr. Martel: Were you the critic?

Mr. Haggerty: This has no regard to my being a critic at all.

Mr. Martel: This is not regardless at all.

Mr. Haggerty: As critic of these estimates, you have no more special privileges than any other member. Don't let it go to your head.

Mr. Chairman: We will proceed at the end of the question period tomorrow.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, I am speaking to the minister on this. There is a little distraction from the member.

Mr. Haggerty: There is no little distraction.

Mr. Martel: It's really irrelevant. Committees are frequently altered to meet the commitments of the minister who happens to be involved. I can well recall last year that the minister had intentions of being here but for some reason had to leave. We don't say to the minister: "Look, you can't do that." So don't be so bloody stupid.

Mr. Haggerty: No, I'm not being stupid. I think that we should continue with the votes in the estimates here; if you're not here, it is just your tough luck. There were other days when you have gone back to Sudbury and you've missed the estimates here.

Mr. Martel: Not when I've started to do a job.

Mr. Morningstar: The fellow right by you there will look after your estimates.

Mr. Chairman: I think we'll have to continue; you get back as soon as you can.

Mr. Martel: I could raise some other points.

The committee adjourned at 6 o'clock, p.m.

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ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Standing Social
Development Committee
Chairman: Mr. M. Hamilton

OFFICIAL REPORT — DAILY EDITION
Fourth Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature

Thursday, June 6, 1974

Afternoon Session

Speaker: Honourable Allan Edward Reuter
Clerk: Roderick Lewis, QC

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1974

The committee met at 3:25 o'clock, p.m.

ESTIMATES, MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

(continued)

On vote 2601:

Mr. Chairman: I call the meeting to order. We were discussing item 5.

Mrs. M. Campbell (St. George): Mr. Chairman, in this particular section, reading from the notes, I am interested at this point in time to find out exactly what programmes are being administered of those not yet transferred to field delivery. I would like to understand what has been transferred to field delivery and what this particular item is operating.

Hon. R. Brunelle (Minister of Community and Social Services): Well, Mr. Chairman, one of those not yet transferred to field delivery is the Indian community secretariat. The reason this has not been done is that we work very closely with the various Indian bands and Indian organizations and they have expressed a strong desire that we continue under our existing programme. We have told them that we would do this and that we would work with them; and hopefully in time, when it is more advantageous to them, we will decentralize.

Another programme that we hope to decentralize into the field is the sports and recreation bureau; as yet this has not been implemented, but we are working in that direction.

Of course, as we indicated yesterday in connection with the family benefits programme, it will be some time before the computerization is done.

Miss D. Crittenden (Deputy Minister): Well, we are in the process this month. By the end of June we anticipate having decentralized daycare, rehabilitation, citizenship, legal aid and community development.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: As has been indicated, Mr. Chairman, our whole thrust is toward

decentralization and a stronger field presence, but it will take some time to bring this about.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, I was particularly interested in the community development aspect of this programme. Certainly it seems to me it would be one area that should be decentralized. Do I take it from what was said that that will be done within the month with daycare?

Miss Crittenden: That is the target date we have for the ones I mentioned just now.

Mrs. Campbell: Then may I ask for a moment just how you propose the decentralization of rehabilitation? I have to say that this is an area, whether in this ministry or in other areas—workmen's compensation and such—where I feel that the programmes have not been that effective. I would like to know just how you propose to deal with this on a decentralized basis.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Al Gordon, the assistant deputy minister in charge of programme development, since his appointment has been working on the decentralization of these programmes into the field.

Mr. A. Gordon (Assistant Deputy Minister, Programme Development): I wonder if I might comment, Mr. Chairman, in a broad sense about the timing for decentralization, appreciating the complexity of these programmes and the need for building a capability within the districts. Saying we will do it as of a date will initiate the formal change, but we have to build the capability and do the transfer.

Rehabilitation is a prime example of that because it is the one programme that is most involved in direct delivery at the present time, and with our community involvement thrust trying to broaden the approach to rehabilitation to encompass all people who need rehabilitation, we are having to look at a redeployment in total. In that particular programme this is a fairly complex issue where they have been almost entirely, up till now, involved with direct

delivery. In this case, the capability for programme development and policy development need strengthening and decentralizing.

Mrs. Campbell: It certainly does.

Mr. Gordon: So in detail we aren't in the position where we can say we are going to move X number of bodies and automatically appoint people, as if it was a piece of pie that could be easily sliced into two and fit. Because it just doesn't; we are working at the present time on that. We have been spending a considerable amount of time because we need to build a capability to look at rehabilitation in its broad sense in the planning and development side—and building the capability, not to be considered part of the overall programme, but rather an integral part of the operation in the districts.

Mrs. Campbell: That would be, I would think, some time to come?

Mr. Gordon: We won't accomplish that in one day.

Mrs. Campbell: Would you think that perhaps we would still see rehabilitation functioning under this item in the estimates next year?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would hope, Mr. Chairman, by next year that we will have integrated the rehabilitative services considerably in the field.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, we will have planning within this vote always.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, I would hope to see some planning because I would like to know what your plans are. I would like to see how you are progressing because it is an area, whether related to this ministry or to other functions, which is singularly unsuccessful in this province—perhaps in the country because I am not aware of it. It certainly needs something.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, when we speak of a rehabilitation we have been concentrating mainly on those who are physically handicapped. We hope to encompass a much larger group—those, for instance, who are on family benefits, who need retraining, single mothers, and so forth. We hope to really enlarge that area to help them to get into the work stream, those who can.

Mrs. Campbell: Is the minister aware, Mr. Chairman, of the gap which still exists for a child who moves out of the kind of assistance under crippled children and moves into the

adult world into a vacuum? When do you contemplate starting to pick up these cases? To give some assistance in rehabilitation to them?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I am not too clear, Mr. Chairman, what Mrs. Campbell is referring to. There is a gap from the time that they become adults?

Mrs. Campbell: Yes. When they first become adults and are no longer being assisted through an agency such as crippled children, or some of the other agencies, they probably regress because they appear to have no place to go from there. Where do you pick them up? What are the plans for this in your expanded services?

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, I don't know if this is answering you, Mrs. Campbell, but we are working at the present time to obtain alternate kinds of housing for crippled young people. We are expanding our workshops throughout the province at quite a substantial rate to provide training for, again, fairly young people. We are trying to attack this on a fairly broad front. If you are referring to guidance counselling for children—

Mrs. Campbell: No, I am not.

Miss Crittenden: That's fine, because we do not do that.

Mrs. Campbell: I am not referring to that. If I can give you an example—and I have examples of almost everything in your ministry in my riding—there is a young girl who was with Crippled Civilians. She was making some headway and then, unfortunately, the years caught up with her and she became an adult. At that point there was no place for her, although I made an awful lot of efforts on my own to try to help.

What do you do in a case like that? She is given financial assistance and, therefore, her mother, who is virtually a slave to the situation, gets her allowance cut. You make it as impossible as you can for them to provide the transportation to find any private resources. And we talk about a rehabilitation programme.

I want to know when that kind of thinking is going to stop and when we really are going to show a deep and dedicated concern to this whole area. If, in fact, you would leave them with funds enough that they could do privately that which you are not prepared to do for them publicly, perhaps that's an answer. But to deprive them in every direction is just plain—in the good old English sense of the word—damnable, and it is going on.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I don't know if I am answering your question, Mrs. Campbell, but it depends on the degree of disability. For instance, under the GAINS programme those who are physically handicapped and unable to work, regardless of their age, will be eligible for GAINS—

Mrs. Campbell: In fact, what will happen there, Mr. Chairman, based on the thinking of this ministry, will be that that girl will get the GAINS payment and the mother will likely be cut off welfare. That is one of the things. She has already been cut off as soon as her daughter got some assistance before. They simply, literally can't move. They are boxed in. The mother is on 24-hour-a-day service, 365 days in the year. That's a help? The girl could take rehabilitation, according to the information I have.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I do believe that it's rather difficult to deal with some cases. The cases have to be dealt with individually. What you are saying is that if this daughter is permanently disabled her mother will not be eligible for assistance if she is presently receiving family benefits?

Mrs. Campbell: I am perfectly sure that as the daughter's income rises, the mother's will be cut. You have done it already. To what extent you will continue that, I don't know. Mr. Chairman, this is one of the things where I must confess I have a very great conscience. I work individually with the people in my riding.

I have publicly stated that I think I am not doing a service to those people, because I may be able to cure or to help one case—in this case I couldn't, but I may help one case—but what about all the others that none of us knows about? And as long as I help one case, it puts off the day of decision for all the rest. That's why I am raising it, because I am concerned.

If it gets to being a regional kind of review, I would hope that you would at least listen—now that you are so concerned about the municipal input—to what they're saying in this particular area, because this function is a very poor function as I see it. Perhaps my experience is biased because I've only seen the failures of the programme—I make allowances for that—but as long as there is one failure, in my mind it hasn't succeeded.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I would say that what Mrs. Campbell says, and this was said yesterday, is quite true. There are

inequities and we are trying to rationalize the whole income security programme. We will be hearing more about it, especially under the next vote, which is the income maintenance vote. We admit that there are many inequities and we're trying to rationalize them.

Mrs. Campbell: As I see it, if you have a general decentralization and, as part of that programme, such things as rehabilitation community development, sports and recreation and so on—I'm speaking again for Metro Toronto, as I see it—then I think you might get to the point where somebody could look at the whole individual and deliver the services needed to the whole individual. As it is now, you segregate pieces of individuals into all sorts of different compartments; it is inhuman.

Mr. Gordon: Mr. Chairman, if I might just comment, that's precisely why we're trying to have the district handle all functions and do the planning in a co-ordinated fashion instead of as before, with daycare, children's services, day nurseries, rehabilitation and so on in separate units. With the organization as you see it, we're trying to pull our planning together so that we can deal in just that way, recognizing that as a very real problem.

Mrs. Campbell: May I take the added step and ask, since the minister has expressed the philosophy, with which some don't agree, that the municipalities should have input into this, what provision is there for input at their level into your planning?

Mr. Gordon: We are trying to develop at the present time—and we've discussed this with the social planning councils—what we're calling a green paper which will allow them to discuss it before we come to decisions or conclusions on a mechanism for doing social planning. We're using the term mechanism, because we're afraid if we get a plan, then they will get it stuck in stone and we'll never get it changed. We're working on that now and we hope to be able to come up with it within the next few months. We feel a sense of responsibility for providing some impetus and initiative in this regard, so we're going to come up with a green paper and we will expect the full participation of the community before any decisions are taken on the final resolution of it.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, finally, on this point, the city of Toronto, for instance, had a task force on the elderly and the disabled. To

what extent will those people who had input into that task force be consulted in the planning stages of the province, since the ministry does wish to keep the municipalities very much in the picture?

Mr. Gordon: It is our hope, both in developing the green paper and in the response to it, that we will be able to take advantage of the full matrix of people and groups who are concerned and involved and have input in that regard. One of the biggest problems, I found as a newcomer to this, is that each group wishes to take total or sole responsibility for making decisions, which is just impossible in social planning. So it is our desire to try to do it as broadly in such a way that the communication can be effective among all of these groups. I don't know whether we will be 100 per cent successful or not, but we certainly are trying our best and this is why we are concentrating on what we are calling a mechanism for social planning, rather than a plan itself.

Mrs. Campbell: Could I know whether there have been any changes in the community development portion of this ministry? Have there been interim changes as it moves toward decentralization? Have the policies remained the same or have they been undergoing change?

Mr. Gordon: In one sense no; in another sense yes. The fact that in the green paper development, for example, we are expecting the districts themselves to take some leadership in the discussions within the community with respect to social planning, then we can say, in that sense of community development, very definitely there has been a change.

In the formal structure of the community and development branch this has not been changed as yet, although we expect to see this change fairly shortly. As Mr. Martel said the other evening, one of our problems in this regard is staffing and finding enough people with the expertise, skill and the ability to work effectively within the communities. We are attempting to strengthen our hand in that regard through the district offices so that this will be not just a contact point for delivery of services but, even more important, a feedback mechanism or communicative mechanism which will allow us to plan effectively as well.

Mrs. Campbell: In the case of the community development, they have in the past been working with community groups in my riding, for example, although they seem to

be recognized as not being in my riding when you wish to hand out cheques to them. However, that is beside the point. They have been working there. Now, when this decentralization takes place, what will be the relationship of the community development type of orientation to daycare or sports or rehabilitation? Will they be in a discussant role, or where will the decisions be reached, for instance, between now and when you get some of these decentralized?

Mr. Gordon: The final decision concerning the actual structure has not been established, but one of the major points of view that is being expressed, and I think generally adhered to, is the fact that community development is a total role for a district. You can't label a person as a community development person, but everyone who is working within the district structure has a responsibility for that. So all of those facets related to these programmes would then have both the responsibility for delivery and also the responsibility for input and for planning.

Mrs. Campbell: Thank you. I'm leaving that particular item. I don't know whether anyone else wants to get into it.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deans, I think.

Mrs. Campbell: I don't mean the whole item, but that particular paragraph.

Mr. I. Deans (Wentworth): I promise to breathe once in a while, and we'll let you in.

I want to talk about what the minister is doing with regard to developing a programme which might—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Which programme?

Mr. Deans: I'm just coming to it. Wait for it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I just missed a word before "programme."

Mrs. Campbell: "Developing."

Mr. Deans: A programme which might encourage women on family benefits to get to work. I am not suggesting for a moment that we are going to kick them all out to work, but obviously a lot of them would like to go to work. You will remember, I am sure, that I spoke about this before. In fact, I have spoken about it every year except last year—last year, for some reason or other, your estimates snuck through on me—and therefore I know that you can't have any major programme under way or I would have heard of it.

I want to tell the minister that I happen to think that the structure of the Family Benefits Act and the way that payments are made is as destructive as hell; that it tends to keep women off the work force because their payments are made in relation to the number of dependants that they have at home. As children grow up, their payments are reduced.

Let's say the woman starts out with three children, and as they grow older and leave home, or go on to school in some other area, the woman's payments are reduced under the Family Benefits Act to the point where she is virtually unable to maintain herself. As the last child leaves she no longer qualifies for family benefits. She's in a position where she has been virtually tied in, because the opportunities for employment are practically nonexistent—and not only practically nonexistent, but the reductions that are made in her income as a result of her getting some kind of part-time employment make it almost foolish for her to try to find anything. Certainly it tends to eat into her disposable income.

At some point, when she becomes 45 or 50 or whatever, she discovers that she has no more children at home, she has no marketable skills because she hasn't worked for 25 years perhaps, and she then becomes another statistic. She goes from being on family benefit to going on welfare. I want to talk to you about it.

I said when I started out that the family benefit programme in itself is fine; it has all good intentions to maintain the income levels of people. But really for the individuals who have to be under it it is destructive, because it destroys initiative. It makes them captives of the welfare system because they can't really get out and get work. When they are eligible for employment they are simply not able to go out into the workforce because they haven't got anything by way of a skill that any employer is looking for.

If you want to look at it as I have over the years, I think to begin with you have to devise a new way of finding employment for people who are the heads of single-parent, mother-led families. I think you have to get away from Manpower altogether. They don't understand the problem nor do they care about the problem.

The woman who is out legitimately seeking some kind of part-time employment inevitably finds that she falls into one of two categories. Either no one is interested in her or the employment she is able to get is menial and demeaning. Even if she did have

a skill of some kind when she went into the workplace, she finds that nobody wants to hire someone who can only work four or five hours a day, and so there isn't an opportunity for her to move in and to get a job that pays her a reasonable wage either to supplement or to replace her family benefit income.

I think what you should be doing is to establish a branch within your ministry—God help me, it is getting bigger and bigger all the time—but you are going to have to establish a branch that will be, in essence, an employment branch; a branch that will seek out employers for the kinds of people we are talking about; a branch that will be available to all of the major and minor employers and all of the municipalities across the province to register employment opportunities—part-time employment opportunities preferably, but employment opportunities of any kind—so that these people are able either to be retrained through an adequate retraining programme or so that they are able to fit in immediately into the job that is available for them.

Beyond that, your programme of family benefit should then be a supplement to income. You are going to have to guarantee those people an income level that is reasonable. You are going to have to take a serious look at establishing an income level that is well in excess of the poverty line. You are going to have to take a look at an income level that will actually meet the legitimate needs of the majority of people in the major municipalities across the province.

My guess is that if you initiate a programme that encourages people to work rather than discourages them from working, it will cut down on the cost—that is not my primary concern, but it is certainly a concern—it will cut down on the number of dollars you have to spend through your ministry. More important than that, it will give those people a self-sufficiency and worth that they haven't had for years.

Most of them feel like second-class citizens and that is a major problem. They are all lumped together in the same housing project. They are sort of categorized; their kids aren't able to take advantage of the same kinds of things that other kids take advantage of.

The last time I spoke to you I asked, for example, how does a mother on family benefit—given the income level that she has and her commitments—how does she provide hockey equipment for her kid to play in the hockey league—oh, that is a bad word in your ministry at the moment—how can she

provide equipment for her kid to take part in minor sports? How does she provide the \$2.50 or the extra \$3 or \$4 she needs so her child can take the bus trip to Queen's Park, the Science Centre, or to Niagara Falls to see the various exhibits and things there? She just can't do it. There is no way. On the benefits you pay, there is no way.

I'm not going to get into what happens at this point, because it tends to cloud the issue, but my major concern is, that by virtue of the Family Benefits Act and by virtue of this little dollar-for-dollar reduction beyond a certain level, you find, first of all, the jobs aren't available.

Secondly, you are victimizing not only the parent, but all the children. All of those children suffer from not being able to do the kinds of things that their colleagues and friends do, the ones with whom they go to school. They can't take part. Or if they do take part, the money has to come out of the food budget or from some similar budget. And it just seems to me to be a situation that we can't tolerate too much longer in this province.

I've long believed that the majority of people on family benefits would much rather be self-sufficient. But you are as familiar as I am with the family-benefit mothers in the Metropolitan Toronto research project. You must have read the report of this project. It devotes 25 or 30 pages to this very problem. It sets out clearly what some of the major difficulties are confronting those mothers. One major difficulty, of course, is the availability of daycare.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes.

Mr. Deans: That's one.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: And that, of course, is—

Mr. Deans: There are initiatives—I'll put it that way to be kind—there are initiatives in the direction of daycare. But that's not the only major problem. It said in the report, and I think it's probably an accurate reflection of the truth, that the majority of women on family benefit are not aware of the regulations regarding their earning capacity. And even if they were, their earning capacity is not nearly sufficient anyway.

In addition to that, you'll find that not all of the people on family benefits are able to get into Ontario Housing Corp. projects. And because they are not able to, quite often much more of their income is taken up

in paying a rent in the free market than would be normally taken up by them being involved in an Ontario Housing project undertaking.

So, if you following it through from beginning to end, I think that the family benefit programme, in the first instance, should be an interim programme. As a person finds herself the head of a family, and inevitably as the head of a mother-led family, there should be adequate assistance during an interim period to get her over all of the crises and problems that arise from being placed in a situation where there no longer are two parents and there is just one. She faces all of the major problems of trying to make ends meet and making decisions for the future.

And beyond that, the discussion should then centre on whether or not the children are of an age where they can go into a nursery; whether there are nursery services available within the area; whether it is possible for those people to find employment for which they are suited; whether retraining is required; and the degree and type of retraining necessary. That programme has to be followed assiduously along the way so that after a short period of time there will then begin the process of employment assessment, retraining and employment opportunity supplemented by a base wage.

I want to talk about that for a moment. I think that a woman—

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deans, I wonder—

Mr. Deans: Would you like to vote?

Mr. Chairman: There is a vote that has to take place.

Mr. Deans: I would be delighted to vote.

The committee recessed at 4 o'clock, p.m., for a vote in the House and reconvened at 4:20.

Mr. Deans: In looking at the problem of the single parent, I have come to the conclusion that money alone won't solve it. But money will certainly go a long way. It's always very difficult for one parent to provide the kind of stable atmosphere that normally is provided by two. We certainly have an obligation to try to ensure that the income level, regardless of how it is derived, is not a major contributing factor to the further breakdown of the family unit in that regard. And I think to some extent it is. It causes undue pressure, particularly on the mother and the mother-led family.

Simply being on your own with kids to raise is a tough proposition, I think for most people anyway. I am not using that in any way to downgrade the capacity of somebody looking after the children. I think that just being by yourself, having children to look after, and not having somebody to turn to in moments of crisis, and not having somebody else to discuss major — and minor — problems with, in itself is enough of a hardship without having lack of income as an added hardship.

I think we have too long had a sort of welfare mentality toward single parent families. There is such thing as a welfare mentality. There is no doubt in my mind that it does exist; not among people on welfare so much as it does among the rest of the population. They tend to view anyone in receipt of social benefit as being a bit of a deadbeat, living off the fat of the land, living off the sweat of their brow. You hear it so often, over and over again, and in so many different categories. In by far the majority of the people, this is such a lot of nonsense. In the area of the mother-led family, it is probably more nonsense than in any other category, with perhaps the exception of the disabled.

So, I think that you are going to have to have a programme that does all the things that I spoke about before, and goes further. I think you are going to have to be able to say to those people that we will also provide you with an income guarantee that will be sufficient to meet your basic commitments, so that whatever you are able to earn up to the average earning—in other words, the combined total of family benefit and earnings should be allowed to reach the average earning in the Province of Ontario before we begin a major cutback.

What that means is that we have a programme that says—let's assume the average per one person is \$8,000; it may not be—then a person would be able to earn without any loss of this guarantee up to that level. Beyond that level there would be an appropriate reduction to the point where they were totally and absolutely self-sufficient by way of earned income.

I don't think it's reasonable to assume that a person can survive on \$4,000 or \$5,000 a year. I don't think it is reasonable at all. In Metropolitan Toronto or in the city of Hamilton it is just absolutely impossible for a person to live a reasonable life on that kind of income. And yet for the majority when they are on family benefits, they are not receiving that much to begin with, and secondly, if they do find a small job of

some kind that they are able to do, their income is reduced fairly quickly and therefore they find that they are not better off.

I just think that in the overall the programme is a bit old-fashioned, a bit archaic. It tends to look upon anyone who doesn't happen to be out working as falling into the category of being a bum. And it just is so wrong.

I don't know how you begin to change it. I think it has to start in the programme development administration branch. I think it has to begin there and I think what you are going to have to do is set up two or three test programmes. Set up a test programme here in Metro and a test in the Peninsula area, and one in the Ottawa area, one in northern Ontario—or two perhaps—and see whether or not you can encourage employers, first of all, to enrol themselves in such a programme.

It's not to be considered as a means of getting cheap labour. I want to make that point. We've got to make sure that it doesn't simply become a source of cheap labour for some employers because there will be some unscrupulous sons of guns who will take advantage of it in that way. It has to be carefully watched.

The second thing is that you are then going to have to find out just how much retraining is necessary and be prepared to engage yourself directly in the purchase of that kind of retraining, as now occurs from time to time, within the community college setup or wherever else it has to be gained. But I think it has to be done with an eye to allowing people to integrate into what is generally conceded to be the mainstream of Ontario society and to allow them to become recognized as contributors, whatever that is, to the growth and development of the province. And that's the only way it's going to occur.

I've got more to say, but I'd like to hear what you have to say about it.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I wish to commend the member for his very constructive comments. We certainly agree that there is a need for review and reform, and I would say that there is a very major review under way. I'd be glad, maybe in the next vote, to explain to the members here what that major review is actually doing.

When you say that every effort should be made to encourage and assist those who are on social assistance, those on family benefits to get back into the work stream we are

entirely in agreement. There are some things under way actually; it has many facets.

The enrichment of the daycare centres will be, we think, of great assistance to many mothers, but this is only one of the many. We also think that more has to be done in our rehabilitation services to assist the single parents and the mothers.

In those areas, some municipalities have already taken some major steps in having more counsellors; this has been very effective. I'm thinking of the city of Peterborough which last year had the substantial reduction in persons who were unemployed as a result of hiring more counsellors. People sometimes get discouraged when they apply for a position and have to be motivated.

One of the major items under the income security review is an income supplementation programme. This is what our review is actually doing it is looking into this in conjunction with the federal government. We are also taking major steps at the same time. This would be supplementation not only to those on social assistance, on family benefit and general welfare assistance, but also to the low-wage earners.

We agree that our earning ceilings have not been updated for some time—those ceilings that are in this family benefits handbook. We have already taken a step. We have increased the ceilings to the disabled and the blind but actually we are considering increasing them substantially more, and we are taking a look at all our ceilings. I should mention at the same time, Mr. Chairman, that we have to be careful increasing ceilings to those who are on family benefits. We have to be careful not to increase them too high. Why? Because the great majority of the people who are working in the Province of Ontario are on average salaries and many are on low salaries. We have to be careful that we don't raise our earning ceiling too high in order to be a disincentive for the so-called working poor.

Mr. Deans: No, but they could perhaps qualify under the earnings ceiling supplement. If I may say so, that is self-defeating. I think you have to talk in terms of what is needed, not what you can do in accordance with what other people have. If you raise them to a level that is adequate and you then find that there are a number of people in the province whose incomes are less than the amount of the supplement plus the earning ceiling, they will then qualify for the supplement.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: For an income supplement?

Mr. Deans: Yes.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes. As I mentioned earlier, we think that an effective income supplement has a lot of merit. Also you often mention guaranteed annual income. We already have that with those who are 65 and with the gains programme we will have it for the blind and the permanently physically disabled person. We have a major income security review under way and at some time during our estimates, Mr. Chairman, at the appropriate time, I would like you to hear our senior staff and Mr. Glen Heagle who has been working very closely with the federal government. He has done a lot of work on this. He sleeps seven nights a week thinking about this, and he has some very interesting comments on it. I don't know if this is the right time, but maybe more could be done.

Mrs. Campbell: He dreams in Technicolor?

Mr. Chairman: With respect, is it your intent to tell us how you arrive at the supplement? This has been a concern of mine, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The supplement—

Mrs. Campbell: How do you arrive at the formula to start with? After 10 years you can't get that—

Mr. Chairman: Right. It is a question of whether you live in Alice township in Renfrew County or in the city of Toronto—that sort of thing. It is a very interesting matter.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: You are speaking about supplementary aid and special assistance, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Right.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: This is all part of the income security review.

Mr. Deans: I would personally be prepared to hear it now. I don't know about anybody else. It is very much tied in to what we are talking about, but I am in the hands of the Chairman.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: If it is all right with you, Mr. Deans, we would prefer it on the second vote.

Mr. Deans: Okay. What I am talking to you about is not new—not by any stretch of

the imagination. I think you agreed with me last time I said it so it is not something that I am raising with you for the first time. What bothers me is that every time I raise it we talk about how valuable a contribution it is. The only problem is that nothing seems to happen. I still have the same mothers in the same situation they were in a few years ago. I could trot out all the cases and just update them for you, but I don't want to do that.

I am persuaded that nothing useful can come of the family benefit programme unless it is integrated with work opportunities, re-training, daycare centres. I am going to tell you that there are areas where there are no daycare centres and notwithstanding your programme there will not likely be daycare centres. Even the councils in some areas are a little short-sighted, to say the least.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes. But in reference to that, Mr. Chairman, if a council does not want to establish a daycare centre and a group of parents wish it we can now fund parent co-ops directly.

Mr. Deans: That assumes, of course, that there will be no major confrontation in the community in which the daycare centre is going to be located. We won't have a zoning problem that the council won't permit the zoning change on. It has seen so many intangible things that, in fact it is a very difficult problem. It is much more difficult than just saying we are going to do it.

For many mothers, rather than daycare centres you will find that they are moving more and more toward finding a neighbour or someone in the area to whom they will pay a little bit and the child will go there. If it is a child going to school half days or whatever, the child will remain the second half, or the first half, of the day with this neighbour, and the neighbour will be paid. I think there has to be a very real consideration given to that in the computing of the income level. For a single-parent head of a family, the costs are higher on average than for the average family of two parents and a number of children. The costs of just getting things done.

When you're only one and have to come home every night and begin this process of trying to find out how to make ends meet, and do your normal work and whatever, that adds additional pressure. If you find you have to pay your neighbour her babysitting fees out of an already inadequate income level, you're running into real problems. You are going to have to say that there is going to be

a category of payment that will take into account the additional costs of being the head of a single-parent family. Those costs will include such things as babysitting or daycare, whichever way you want to look at it.

There are obvious initial costs for someone who has been on mother's allowance for a long time and then starts to go to work. One of the costs is the provision of adequate clothing. Quite often you'll find that there hasn't been very much purchasing done the three or four years she has been on mother's allowance. Everything is a bit out-of-style; she feels a little unusual in the atmosphere she is going into. She can't get credit at the local stores because—boy, you try to get a charge card when you are on mother's allowance. It's a real problem, the minute they find out.

There are additional costs—those once-in-a-lifetime items. There is the cost, for example, of looking after kids in the summertime. Some communities have reasonably active programmes; other communities have no programmes at all. And the mother finds herself in the position of not knowing what to do with little Johnny all summer because there he is, school finished at the end of June, and all of July and all of August and part of September, he is there. It was okay while he was in school and her costs were fairly stable, but the moment he is out of school and sitting at home, she has to find some place to put him. And the minute she starts looking for some place to put him, she has to pay money. But nobody takes that into account. There is no accounting for that; there's no way of considering that.

On top of that, and I made this point with you before, there are costs throughout the year that might be considered unusual costs. There's that late August cost—three kids going back to school and all the additional costs of getting them there. Her income doesn't take that into consideration. The Family Benefits Act doesn't take it into consideration really.

Her income in the summer is reduced because her heating costs go down. Therefore there is no way of putting aside a little extra that other people might be able to put aside. She gets to August, she has this restart-of-school problem and the additional \$60 to \$100 that has to be laid out just to provide them with an outfit to get there. The same thing is true at Christmas. The same thing—you know, you can go on and on and on. I'm not going to.

I am just saying that it has to be much more humane than it is now. The considerations for those people have to be much more

humane. You have to look at them in two ways. You have to look at them in terms of the provision of sufficient capital to meet legitimate costs, and that should be enough to be able to live a reasonable life; secondly, the provision of opportunities for those people so that they can find their own way when inevitably they will have to find their own way.

If you don't provide the opportunities when they are young enough, rest assured that as they grow older the chances of them ever finding any meaningful employment, becomes less and less, until some day they become out-and-out welfare cases, through no choice, while they wait between ages 55 to 65 to get the old-age pension, because who the devil is going to hire them?

And there are fewer and fewer part-time jobs available. Go down to any supermarket, into any department store, you find they are cutting back on the number of part-time jobs. There are fewer and fewer people working in the stores. The stores are getting more and more to the point where if you can find any work in there, you are damned lucky. So the opportunities for those people become less and less.

I have given a lot of thought to what the problem is and I think it can be resolved in the way that I suggested. But it requires a complete change in the philosophy and direction of the family benefits branch. Not that the people in it couldn't make the change quite nicely. They could probably make the transition with no difficulty at all. It just requires a reorientation of their thoughts and their ideas and the directions and goals, so that they can come up with a programme that will be encouraging. A programme that people can look at and see themselves emerging at the other end—see themselves as having gone through that phase and emerged from it. I just strongly urge that by the time we come back next year, you have made that kind of basic, fundamental, philosophical change.

Mrs. Campbell: May I ask.

Mr. Chairman: Mrs. Campbell, sure.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Deans has spoken and spoken very well on the position of the single parent who is female. I would like to say a word about the single parent who is male. We are reversing roles perhaps.

Mr. Deans: Very appropriate.

Mr. F. Drea (Scarborough Centre): Very.

Mrs. Campbell: I think I have been more outraged by some communications from this ministry in this area than almost anything that has happened since I have been in public life. It came about through a man who was a single head of family, who had several daughters, ranging in age—I am speaking from memory—from two to six, or something of that nature. His earnings were totally inadequate to permit him to look after his family, and he wished to be allowed to go on welfare. I would presume it would end up as family benefits in the normal course, because he wished to look after his children.

I wasn't so much concerned with that case itself because I don't know all of the ramifications. What I was concerned with was the correspondence from this ministry, which indicated that they expected men to be in the work force. Of course, the other side of the coin was that they did not expect women to be in the work force. They were supposed to be home with their children. The stereotyping was the most blatant I have ever encountered in all the time I have been in public life. I would hope that if you are thinking in terms of changing your policies and your philosophies you would start with something as basic as that.

The case may well not have been one where it was advisable to assist in this way. I can't speak for the specifics of it. But I certainly am of the opinion that you have got to look at this whole area of the single head of family, whether it be male or whether it be female. If you continue to say, "You are a man and no matter what your children are, you work, whether you can earn enough to support them or not," obviously the end result is going to be a deterioration in that family. If you take the children from that parent, as presumably you might have to do, I don't see that you are saving taxpayers' dollars. It is going to cost you far more to find the people to look after those children, if, in fact, that is all the concern there is.

Surely there has to be some way of coping with what is a growing problem in our community. And that is the problem of the single-parent family. More and more you are going to have to deal with the male who is the single head of family, because more and more of them are demanding equal rights and equal opportunity.

So that first of all, could there be some way that you would straighten out anybody in your ministry who is perpetuating this stereotyping and start in at some reasonable point so that we could look at the needs of

the families, the needs of the children, the needs of the parents—and not at some fixed idea about the role that each should play.

I do subscribe to what Mr. Deans has said in speaking of the single head of family, generally, but I would not confine it—and I am sure he wouldn't—to the mother-led family, just because at the moment there are obviously more of them in the community.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I have received representation on this important subject. The Metro Agencies Action Committee has made its views known to us, and also the president of the Single Fathers Association. We agree that it's an area that needs to be improved and we are reviewing all our programmes in conjunction to try to provide assistance. It's a complex area.

I think the hon. member knows that we can provide assistance now under the General Welfare Assistance Act. But we feel that in view of the increase in single parents, and especially in the area concerning fathers, where our present regulations under the Family Benefits Act do not provide assistance, we are in the process of reviewing this.

I think the hon. member is also probably aware that Judge Andrews is preparing an experimental programme involving the intervention of the conciliation counsellor in the questions of divorces and separations, when these come to court. So there is work being done under the Attorney General (Mr. Welch), as well as under our ministry. It's a very complex area.

Mrs. Campbell: In a case such as I have mentioned, where the income was obviously so low—and just taking it as a straight case—how would you handle that family? Would the Children's Aid step in? Would they take the children? What help would that man have if, as you determined, his function was to continue to work?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would think that maybe the Children's Aid could be involved, and also under our homemakers service. I think this would be an area where our homemakers service should be able to provide assistance. Also, although sometimes it doesn't apply, we hope to expand our daycare services.

Mrs. Campbell: Of course, this was a case in Toronto and your homemakers service has long waiting lists. They are not able to handle the cases that are requested of them. I don't believe that they will go on on a permanent basis; at least not any time that

I have ever discussed it. Do you have provision for them to bring up a family? Because as I recall the youngest in this case was two. I think there were four, and they were all small.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, each case has to be looked at individually. Is this the case that you were referring to?

Mrs. Campbell: Yes, it came to you and to me through the Parkdale clinic, and then I got this correspondence. Surely you can at least indicate that you are not prepared to accept this type of stereotype; because I will tell you your women's services are not going to get anywhere if you have this kind of approach to the roles of the sexes. It's just complete nonsense to set up two women to operate women's services, if you have got that attitude. I think the deputy is nodding. Maybe she shouldn't be indicating agreement. What does the minister say?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Well, Mr. Chairman, I am all in favour of equality of sexes in every respect. Where there has been an increasing number of single parents and fathers, there has to be. As I indicated, this whole question of a review of our programmes is being considered but it is a very grey area. I don't know whether Miss Crittenden wants to comment.

Mrs. Campbell: Maybe the deputy could tell me what the procedures would be in a case like this.

Mr. Chairman: Maybe Miss Crittenden has a viewpoint on this.

Miss Crittenden: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to comment about Mr. Deans' remarks earlier and then follow on to you, Mrs. Campbell.

I have a feeling Mr. Deans must have been reading my mind or some of the speeches I have made. We are extremely concerned about single parents and the concern is not just for the single mother but for the single father also. In Ontario our social workers are working through our district offices with single-parent groups. These are not always single mothers. These can be single mothers or fathers. I have met with a number of these groups and they are making suggestions which we hope to incorporate in our planning for the future programmes.

In the Toronto area a very progressive programme was designed by the YWCA called "Focus for Change." That programme was originally financed privately. They would accept referrals of single parents who were

unemployed and were trying to look after their families. Many of these people had been out of employment for some time or they may have been deserted. They may never have been employed. They may be in a state of shock. The Y had designed a programme to try to orient them to cope with life and perhaps return to the work force, but that takes counselling and it takes help to find the appropriate training and Manpower programme that will suit the particular individual.

We are purchasing that service from the Y and are now funding it. Anyone who is a single parent may be referred there and we will purchase that service in the hope this kind of counselling and assistance will permit people to get back either into appropriate training and the work force or, if they cannot do that, enable them to cope with their life as they find it.

We also are extremely concerned that single parents are finding it very difficult to obtain employment in an economy that seems to be oriented to the seven-hour day. We are endeavouring to get employers to support staggered hours. Many of the plazas are already doing this, but that is just plazas. There is all kinds of employment where you could have staggered hours so that a person could work four hours and not neglect the family.

I believe we are going to have to look to treating people alike, whether they are men or women. We are going to have to work to assist people on the same basis. When I indicated my concern for women, we haven't so many in the ministry, but nevertheless justice must be seen to be provided for all. If we are going to do that then we have to find part-time or staggered employment for people, and assist both the men and women to get back on the labour force. If they don't want to go back on the labour force or can't, we have to assist them to maintain a family on whatever level of assistance they can live.

I would expect many men would prefer to try to stay off assistance. But the case you bring up is a case in point where it may be more satisfactory for the community at large to accept this person as receiving assistance than to have homemakers, if that person feels that that is a more appropriate role.

So I think this is going to be taken into consideration in our planning for the future. Our single parent groups have advised us that one of the ways that we might assist single parents to get back in the labour force is, when they are prepared to accept employment or full-time employment is offered, that

we not finance them for one month but rather for three months. This will permit them to get the clothing and the various things that are necessary. It is the advice of the single parents who are on assistance now that we make the rule very final—three months and you are off—you are now on your own. And they say this is fair. Don't drag this on—in fact be very firm about it—but at least give people a chance to get on their feet.

We are taking all these recommendations into consideration in the design of the assistance programmes for the future. This input is all going in to our income security group.

Mr. Deans: May I just have one minor point? You mentioned about the changing economy—I wanted to ask you to bear in mind that if we haven't already reached it, we are rapidly reaching the point of a two-income economy. Much of what we are required to purchase these days, in accommodation and whatever else, is geared in price to a two-income economy.

That has some major implications, particularly for low-wage earners, and for people who may be going off social assistance into a job, particularly if they are unfortunate enough to be in an area of the province where there is not low-income housing available and they are forced into the free market. The free market prices are geared to two incomes. For a lot of people one income and one job just isn't going to be enough, particularly in the younger generation. I raise it with you only as a point to be remembered—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes, good point.

Mr. Deans: —because you've got to bear it in mind when you are trying to calculate what a person needs by way of an income, in order just to meet their commitments. If you are living in Metropolitan Toronto these days—and Mrs. Campbell knows much better than I do—if you are trying to find an apartment in Toronto—a decent place to raise kids—and you can't get into Ontario Housing Corp. homes, boy, I'm telling you, you are paying a buck and a half for a buck's worth of product everywhere along the way. There are a lot of other things but that's—

Mr. B. Newman (Windsor-Walkerville):
Mr. Chairman—

Mr. Chairman: Yes, Mr. Newman.

Mr. B. Newman: The item that we are on is programme development administration. I was wondering what input there is from this ministry and its agents in the various muni-

cialities toward recommendations and suggestions in the development of housing in a community. A lot of the social problems that develop in the community are as a result of housing.

They are also as a result of the programmes of Ontario Housing, where they come along and ghettoize and place all the single-parent families in one given area. For example in the city of Windsor alone, of 1,639 family housing units, 864 of them are occupied by one-parent families. And they seem to be put in groups.

It seems to me your ministry should be making recommendation to the housing authority and also to a community that we develop housing on a scattered basis rather than concentrating it and placing all of the single-parent families in Ontario Housing. We've got to use, through your department, the rent subsidy programme. A lot of the single-parent families would be content to live in the accommodations that they do have, except that they can't afford to.

You'll say that their housing allowance is a given number of dollars. That's true. It is in Ontario Housing. But, Mr. Minister, the three levels of government are subsidizing that rental. In my own community, the subsidy for one of these units is \$99.45 a month. So, in addition to giving that single-parent family cheaper housing, geared-to-income housing, you are subsidizing that housing to the tune of \$100 a month. Why don't you take that \$100 that you are subsidizing in that instance and give it to the single-parent family to live in housing away from this housing development? They don't always want to live in a body. If you have all of them concentrated in one area, your problems multiply.

I think that you have to look at this. You've got to make recommendations to communities, to the housing ministry; in your own ministry you have to use the rent supplement programme to a far greater degree than is being used at present. I don't think the rent supplement programme, as implemented today, is as effective as it could be. It doesn't alleviate a lot of these single-parent families. You have to look into that a little more seriously, Mr. Minister.

In my own community, mother-led families cost the taxpayers \$6 million annually. You can see how big a problem it is in a 200,000-population community. Think how big it is in the city of Toronto, 10 times the size, and in other communities throughout the province of Ontario. So I think your pro-

gramme developed has to be involved not only with the problems of the individual, but with problems of the other ministries of government. Otherwise we are not going to solve some of the issues.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, we certainly agree with the remarks of Mr. Newman. I'd like to say to you, Mr. Newman, that in our income security review housing is represented in this committee. Also I am told that a presentation on housing has recently been made to the Comay task force.

Housing certainly is a very important part of the social component. I think that they are getting away from what has happened in the past in having separate housing, more or less ghettos. In view of the social problems that accrued as a result, this is being remedied.

So there is some real input and liaison—

Mr. B. Newman: Housing is still being developed in the same way, Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Pardon?

Mr. B. Newman: It is still being developed in communities in the same way—in the condominium, in the row house style, in the highrise complex—rather than allowing the single-parent family to live in the commercial market housing field with a rent supplement programme, so that they would not be concentrated in one area. Your social problems would substantially diminish.

Mr. E. P. Morningstar (Welland): Mr. Chairman, I understand then, Mr. Minister, you are going to have this problem rectified in that area in Windsor? Is that right? It is under consideration?

Mrs. Campbell: What? Is it families or is it housing? What project are you wanting—

Mr. C. J. S. Apps (Kingston and the Islands): Why maintain it applies to only single-parent families? I mean the same thing should be done for any—

Mr. Deans: Oh no. No. I want to—

Mr. Apps: Have you made any recommendations to OHC about the grouping of geared-to-income housing in a certain area? This is one of the great problems that arises when you get a large concentration of rent-geared-to-income housing in a certain particular small area. I think it might be wise if maybe you had a look at that and made some kind of recommendation to OHC, saying from our experience it would appear

that when you do that you create problems that your ministry has to deal with.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I think, Mr. Chairman, what Mr. Apps and Mr. Newman have said is quite true. There have been representations made to Ontario Housing by our ministry on these very concerns.

Mr. Deans: You, please, won't forget one major problem with the supplement. I am not opposed to a supplement but if you are paying into the private market you are going to have to have some control of the rent.

Mrs. Campbell: Sure.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Oh, yes.

Mr. Deans: You can't begin to pay a supplement into the private market if the owner of the apartment complex or whatever is going to be able to establish whatever rent he or she believes to be economical. Otherwise, we are going to be supplementing—it surely is much better for us to have a substantial stock of Ontario Housing units spread out over the entire community or integrated—

Mr. B. Newman: What you say is good but in the meantime how do you resolve the problem when rent supplement can resolve the problem? Also, the Ministry of Housing in its rent supplement programme does make arrangements with the homeowner, the property owner, to lease for a given period of time with no rental increase. I think you do have rent controls built in, maybe not as rigid as we would like to see, but at least it's a start in the right direction.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: The points are well taken, Mr. Chairman, and we are working closely with the new Ministry of Housing on these matters.

Mr. Morningstar: Do you get pretty good co-operation on this?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Excellent, Mr. Morningstar.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Drea.

Mr. Drea: Mr. Minister, on the rent supplement, I don't agree with the practicality of Mr. Deans' remarks on rent control in general. I have somewhat the same concerns in this area and they go a little bit beyond rent control. I would take it that in the rent supplement programme you are almost a silent partner in that. It is almost all arranged through another ministry, isn't it?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That's right, Housing.

Mr. Drea: What I am talking about is not the payments or that type of thing; I am talking about the actual physical accommodation, which apartments are going to be available and so on and so forth.

I have had experience with one operator who has allowed rent-supplemented accommodation. He's a gentleman known to some people in the room; this fellow is DelZotto, the one who is always concerned about his public reputation.

Mrs. Campbell: He builds so many Ontario Housing units.

Mr. Drea: These weren't Ontario Housing; these were conventional apartment buildings on conventional streets—

Mrs. Campbell: I am just pointing out, as an aside, that we did know who he was.

Mr. Drea: Oh. In any event, these were conventional apartment houses on conventional streets where we had a number of rent supplement units. All of a sudden, he has decided apparently that rent supplements aren't his game and we get into rather unusual situations in which I have constituents who were placed in these and they cannot get the apartments redecorated. He tells them "No, you are not going to get paint or the normal things after a year or two of wear and tear." It's normal, in every type of apartment or rental accommodation on that scale, that there is redecoration after a period of living there. I don't care who the tenant is; there is certain normal minimal maintenance for the walls, the floors and so on. DelZotto, at least in Scarborough, all of a sudden decides he is going to get out of rent supplements so he will not do the normal maintenance of the place. The people say, "Why can't I have it at the end of my lease?" They signed a lease. This is all supposed to be done, and I think we all agree on this, on a confidential basis so the person in the regular apartment who is getting a rent supplement is not known so the buildings don't become a ghetto or anything like that. He promptly tells them and his agents tell them that he is not going to redecorate, that he is getting out of this, and that as recipients of rent supplements they really shouldn't ask his company to do anything; they should be grateful he even allows them in his apartments.

Mr. R. F. Nixon (Leader of the Opposition): You are quoting him directly?

Mr. Drea: I am quoting his agents directly. If Mr. DelZotto has any quarrel with me, he knows where to find me. Now then, Mr. Minister, it seems to me—

Mrs. Campbell: He has no quarrel with you.

Mr. Drea: Mr. Minister, it seems to me that if we are going into rent supplement, particularly with single-parent families, to enable people to get out of what I regard as somewhat of a social disaster—the individual highrise OHC project—that by necessity your ministry is going to have to get involved with the type of landlord and the type of agent that we are dealing with.

It is one thing for the Ministry of Housing or Ontario Housing Corp. to deal with the hardware of the situation—the building and so on and so forth. One of the difficulties of the OHC approach to subsidized rentals has been that I think for years we were too concerned about the hardware of the situation, and not about how the families and so on and so forth were adjusting.

I think if our rent supplement thing is to go on—and I would certainly hope it would—that somewhere along the line your ministry has to be brought in.

Are these apartments along the lines of what Mr. Deans has suggested? I am not just talking about the economics. Are these particular units that we are taking as rent supplements, conducive to the general uplift of the family? Are they conducive to a woman who is perfectly willing, but has to sacrifice to take retraining so that she will be as economically self-sufficient as possible? What about the locations of the daycare and so on for the care of her children while she is taking this kind of thing?

I would like to suggest to you that your ministry become a little more involved in this type of thing. The important thing is what we are doing for the family and not just the hardware.

I think it's completely demoralizing for people who have had a couple of terms in an apartment and have become used to the lifestyle, to be told arbitrarily by someone: "We are getting out of the rent supplement business. Somebody is going to have to move you. In the meantime, there is no redecorating or anything else during the final year of your lease." I think that things like that sometimes defeat a whole programme.

Now, if this was one case in one apartment house, Mr. Minister, I would not bring it to your attention. But it is not one case in

one apartment house. It is apparently becoming a trend by certain companies. This one is the worst, but it is certainly becoming a trend in my area.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would be pleased, Mr. Chairman, to discuss with my colleague, the Minister of Housing (Mr. Handleman), the remarks of the hon. member.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Ferrier, just one minute.

Mr. W. Ferrier (Cochrane South): Just one minute—and I want you to be very lenient with me. A programme that I want to discuss is a programme of identifying certain handicapped recipients of FBA for purposes of getting into provincial parks. Now, we discussed this with the minister in those estimates and he said he was in touch with you, and I think you have made some statements about it. But I wonder if it is going to be possible for you to develop such a programme to enable the handicapped people to so identify themselves and be allowed to go to the provincial parks of this province on a free basis.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, for clarification, when you say the physically handicapped, would you restrict them just to those who are in wheelchairs? What would be your classification of physically handicapped?

Mr. Ferrier: I have received representations from the Porcupine Handicapped Club about this for three or four years. Some of those people are ambulatory and can get around, but they are getting disabled pensions from your ministry. This is the group that has made representations to me. I don't know whether it could be extended to cover those on mother's allowance and dependent fathers or not, but I think it's worthy of making it as broad as possible.

Our parks are for our citizens and they are subsidized anyway. But they are particularly important to those recipients in your ministry who need public recreation and can avail themselves of these facilities. I think some way should be found between your two ministries of making these facilities available to the recipients in the same way as they are now made available to senior citizens. We were assured you were looking into it and were trying to come up with some way of providing identification for these people. I would wonder if you really are pursuing it pretty strongly and could come up with some

agreement on this without delaying too much longer.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I think there is merit in the member's suggestion. The problem is the classification. It would be easy to identify, for instance, those in wheelchairs. I would be glad to work with the Ministry of Natural Resources but I am not sure whether it would be advisable to open the entire field. If I understand you correctly, you suggest that those who are on family benefits should also be included.

Mr. B. Newman: Sure, why not?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would prefer to give an adequate income to those on family benefits and then leave them to decide where they would like to go. It would open the field very wide if you allow every person who is a recipient on family benefits free into provincial parks.

Mr. Ferrier: Would you discuss it with the Minister of Natural Resources (Mr. Bernier), particularly from the point of view of the handicapped?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes.

Mr. Ferrier: They are the ones who have made repeated representations to me. The Minister of Natural Resources said he was in touch with you to see if the two ministries can work out some solution for these.

I know they have discussed this at their handicapped provincial conventions. The secretary of the Porcupine club comes back, after having talked with colleagues in the other clubs, and says they can go into the parks at Peterborough and in some place down Cornwall area, so why can't they go in here in northern Ontario? I go to the minister and discuss it with him. He said this year that he was trying to work out some arrangement with your ministry.

For this particular group I would appreciate it if you would consult and see if you might be able to come to a mutually acceptable form of identification to let them in, because they so much want to get this privilege to attend the provincial parks on the same basis as the senior citizens.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We would be pleased to look into this matter.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Apps.

Mr. Apps: I have a couple of comments, and I want to ask a couple of questions on the actual estimates in vote 2601. I notice

that your overall increase is very small compared with the increase from 1972-1973 to 1973-1974, which I guess is good. Your administration must be a bit better streamlined than it was before. It is a quite small increase, a very small percentage. There are two or three things I would like to ask you about. I notice in vote 2601, item 3, you have a 100 per cent increase in the soldiers' aid commission estimate. Where in previous years you have been going up very slowly, suddenly you jump from \$26,000 to \$51,000. Is there any particular reason for this? What caused the great increase?

Mr. Chairman: I think Miss Crittenden yesterday explained this. We are now going through the vote item by item. She explained this in a very broad fashion that will be in the Hansard respecting the meeting that was held yesterday.

Mr. Apps: So you have done this?

Mr. Chairman: Yes. We are dealing with item 5 at the present time and maybe Mr. Brunelle would like to explain it again.

Mr. Apps: No, it is all right. If you have done it, that is fine. My apologies.

Mr. Chairman: Right, Mrs. Campbell.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, if I may have some direction, there were some of these other areas which were given to us as areas which were to be retained here until they were transferred to field delivery. The minister, for example, had stated—correct me if I am wrong—that he wished to discuss daycare under a later vote and also the GAINS programme under a later vote. That being the case, may I now ask what is the planning involvement in the area of sports and recreation, with reference to the Bronte development? Is that within this ministry, or is it interministerial? It's the fourth vote.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Community development, sports and recreation.

Mrs. Campbell: Well, I wasn't sure whether it was a special feature or not. And what are your policies? Last year you stated that you were going to try and correct the imbalance in your programmes. Has there been any greater effort to correct the imbalance in those programmes?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would hope so, Mr. Chairman. I think our reorganization was to make improvements in our programmes.

Mrs. Campbell: I feel that there should be a greater involvement in the development of fitness programmes. I still find it a little difficult to really catch up with what seems to me a rather niggardly approach to the kinds of things that I come into contact with. You know, the odd baseball or bat or whatever it is, rather than an overall approach to the work of clubs.

I'm aware of the organizations that receive funding apart from this. But in the downtown areas where you really need to build up, it seems to me some special types of assistance are needed. True, you have the municipal recreation field. But again, as I said before, it is heavily weighted in favour of recreation for young boys. You then get into your kinds of sports, and they're usually boxing and there aren't too many women or gals, I think, involved in the boxing programmes. I just wonder if you are moving in some direction to make this kind of programme meaningful?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Campbell raises a very good point. Mr. Gordon and myself are just filled with recreation. We attended a three-day recreation conference in Edmonton last week. It was the first conference of all the provincial ministers, along with federal observers. And what came out of that conference was that we were in unanimous agreement—every province along with the federal government—that there should be more emphasis on recreation, that it should be classified as a social service the same as education and health, and that recreation encompasses not just amateur sports but physical fitness, physical recreation, and crafts. It should include, of course, starting the very young, the teenagers, the adults, the elderly people, as well as therapeutic recreation and Indians.

Mr. B. Newman: You're going to give it more priority than you gave racehorses, I hope.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Oh, yes, yes. There are some improvements in our estimates—

Mr. B. Newman: It was \$2.1 million for racehorses—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: —but as time goes on there will be some major improvements in the whole field of recreation.

Mrs. Campbell: So, you are really developing policies in this area?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: The other point on this particular paragraph was that I note the programmes for the Indian community say they have been continued in this field at the request of the communities themselves. What is of concern to me is that I recognize the Indians in our communities—where they are not in any kind of set community but in a downtown area—are receiving benefits in some form or other the same as anybody else.

Mr. J. E. Stokes (Thunder Bay): Why shouldn't they?

Mrs. Campbell: My feeling is that they have special needs in the downtown area, and I don't think that they have this kind of assistance available to them. Many of them still live in a sort of isolation in a downtown area, such as Toronto. I saw it very clearly in the court settings—

Mr. Stokes: Show me one part of downtown Toronto that's isolated.

Mrs. Campbell: Come on. I'm talking about the people in their isolation, and there are many isolated people. I'll be delighted to show them to you if you don't understand. I saw it in the courts and—

Mr. Drea: Look out, Jack.

Mrs. Campbell: —the relationship of their social needs. When this kind of operation is transferred, will a portion of it come into the district which has not the Indian community per se, but which will have the thrust through community development, or whatever else, to try to bring assistance to the special needs of these people?

They have problems with their children when they get into the Children's Aid, for instance. They are usually placed in homes that have no kind of relationship to their culture. All of these matters are a problem. Will that be looked into? Or is it possible that even when these other community development people become decentralized, that they can take on that kind of function—notwithstanding that the actual operation and function which is here is going to stay in this vote for some period of time.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I would certainly agree with Mrs. Campbell's remarks that we just have to provide assistance to native people coming from remote, isolated areas when they arrive in the city and take steps to urbanize them. At the moment I don't know what the Indian population is in Toronto, but we do provide assistance—

Mrs. Campbell: I think you would find it very difficult to really find out. It's been tried. This population is transient.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Yes.

Mrs. Campbell: It is not easy, to be sure.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: No. You are probably aware that we do provide assistance to Anduhyau House—a residence for Indian girls.

Mrs. Campbell: Yes, Anduhyau House—I happen to be a consultant on that board, but that is a special function. That is a function for girls coming in to Toronto. It's a short-term residential kind of thing. That is really not what I am talking about.

I suppose the Native People's Centre can give the best information, because it's operating with people in the community. So often in these meetings when we hear discussions about the needs of the Indian people, quite properly, the impact is from those who represent the Indians in the north. But I would say that there are very special needs in the city, and hopefully you can give us some assurance, and that with decentralization, they will have some special attention.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, we can certainly give the assurance that we will give special attention to the needs of the Indian students and population in Toronto.

Mr. Morningstar: Mr. Chairman, excuse me, I just wondered what Mr. Stokes meant by being isolated.

Mr. Chairman: Pardon?

Mr. Morningstar: I was just wondering what Mr. Stokes meant by being an isolated case in Toronto. I didn't quite—

Mr. Stokes: I thought Mrs. Campbell was referring to some isolated place in downtown Toronto. She was talking about isolated people.

Mr. Morningstar: Thanks very much.

Mr. Chairman: Have you finished, Mrs. Campbell?

Mrs. Campbell: On that particular point, or paragraph, yes. The next one we come to, of course, is sharing with the delivery group responsibility for certain specific functions, such as planning local capital projects, processing local grants of significant size, and co-ordinating local social plans with provincial programme priorities. Now, is sharing

these responsibilities going to continue at this level?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Definitely, Mr. Chairman. For instance, tomorrow morning—

Mrs. Campbell: It was not referred to when we were discussing this earlier.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: For instance, tomorrow morning I and some of my staff are meeting with the president and executive director of the Ontario Association for the Mentally Retarded to deal with programmes of mental retardation. Last week we met—Mr. Gordon and others—with the Ontario Association of Information Centres. So, there is ongoing dialogue—communication—with the various community groups. We met with Children's Aid recently and we are meeting them again. So, this—the planning and the integration—is an ongoing process.

Mrs. Campbell: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I didn't make my position clear. I was asking whether it was anticipated that this function would become decentralized as well, because it wasn't mentioned in the earlier description of those functions.

Mr. Gordon: If I might comment, Mr. Chairman, I believe that it is fair to say we are looking at it as a shared responsibility where formerly it had been a centralized one. As I commented earlier in speaking of our decentralization—our district operation—the input will be there. Hopefully more of the final responsibility will be in the district. But it still has to be shared because we also have the overall concerns such as were just alluded to in the minister's comment.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Right, Right.

Mrs. Campbell: Then I have one more question: What do you do in your liaison with Health? This programme liases—is that really a word? I guess, it is—with other systems at the provincial level; for example Health.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: A good example of that, Mr. Chairman, is in the very important area of accommodation for senior citizens. This came up in northern Ontario, it comes up in eastern Ontario—where we have very good liaison with the Minister of Health (Mr. Miller). We will always have separate homes for the aged—separate nursing homes—but in some areas there may be desirability to have some sort of a common facility that would house those who require extended care in one wing and maybe in another wing

those who require residential care. This is the sort of liaison that goes on between our officials, as well as also being co-ordinated at the social policy level.

Mrs. Campbell: I think that answer makes very clear my concerns. It would appear that there is liaison if it becomes almost a capital function or if it is an institutionalized setting. I am wondering about such things as this. Goodness knows I don't think we need to have any more reports on the fact that with some assistance—be it recreation, be it the health kind of programme—one can keep older people in their own setting for a much longer time than when these services are removed. I would think that there should be the kind of liaison between your two ministries because of the social costs, apart from the dollars, of removing them from their homes and sticking them into places where they are not often very happy.

I would like to see this kind of liaison in programmes so that between you—if dollars were the only thing, and I am sure that isn't true—somehow you could assess the situation in some way to ensure that there would be services available—for example, the health programme in St. James Town—to give these people the kind of service they require to enable them to live the way they are.

The other day I visited a woman in my riding who is in her 80s. She is, I believe, considered to be medically blind but there is some vision and her terror is having to get out of there and move into a nursing home or into some other facility. With some help, and it isn't much that is required, she could stay there, I should think, for some period of time. Surely that is the kind of liaison there ought to be, not just on institutionalized programming?

I can give you another example of those whom the Ministry of Health is so anxious to get out of the active treatment hospitals but who fall betwixt and between their programmes and are not really caught up in any of yours. Again, surely in all humanity, this is where there should be a bridging of this gap in your liaison with that particular ministry?

I should like to see the emphasis on bridging the gap in services of prevention in some areas rather than on trying to determine facility uses. I don't say that that is not important. I wonder if I could have a comment on that.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I would like to say on that, Mr. Chairman, we are entirely in agree-

ment with what Mrs. Campbell is saying and this is what we are doing. The whole thrust of our government today is to provide services to the people in their own homes or apartments, wherever they live. Within our ministry, for instance, this is what we are doing more and more; providing to senior citizens apartments and services to them, the meals on wheels programme—

Mrs. Campbell: Now, no.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Let me give you an example; the home care and homemaker services. This is what we are doing, Mrs. Campbell. We are liaising and Health is providing the nursing services; it calls it home care.

I am told that Canada is one of the most institutionalized countries in the world and we are trying to get away from that. We're trying—

Mrs. Campbell: Sure. It is so much easier and simpler to stuff people into institutions.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: It is better, socially, financially, in every respect, to keep people in their own homes, in all our services.

Mr. Morningstar: Great programmes.

Mr. G. Nixon (Dovercourt): Keep it up.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: This is our trust.

Mrs. Campbell: You refer to the meals on wheels programme; do you really think—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: This is on example.

Mrs. Campbell: —that is a very good example? In my riding, in the summertime, I have people who will be lucky if they get two meals for two days in a week; a meal a day for two days. That's the meals on wheels programme in the summertime and, in the wintertime, the maximum for most of my area is four days; they get one meal a day for four days.

The former Minister of Health (Mr. Potter) bragged about meals on wheels last year. I think it is a disgrace, frankly, because if they do need to have food, they need to eat at least once a day. These people have to have this assistance.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Is it the level of service?

Mrs. Campbell: It is the fact that in vacation time they do not, as a rule, get more than either one or two days of meal service.

Mr. Chairman: The member for Welland.

Mr. Morningstar: Mr. Chairman, we have three Toronto members here in this committee and I think we should hear from them. I think this is a pretty serious problem, a pretty serious complaint.

Interjections by hon. members.

Mrs. Campbell: With 11 hospitals in my riding, I probably do see more of it than anyone else.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I don't want to curtail discussion on this but when it comes to meals on wheels, we are just using this as an example; it could very well be. I would prefer, if it is agreeable to Mrs. Campbell, that this will be again on the third vote. If it is justified criticism, Mrs. Campbell, we are willing to accept it. I was just using the meals on wheels as an example. There's a daycare programme, where they—

Mrs. Campbell: I know.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: —take senior citizens from their own homes or apartments and bring them to a recreation centre, in a regular elderly persons home. They bring them there in the morning and they take them back at night. It is the same with vacation care. These are all programmes to keep elderly persons in their homes or apartments or wherever they live. Tax incentives, tax credits and the GAINS programme are all designed to help to keep people in their own community.

Mrs. Campbell: I agree with that. The thing is that last year I invited Mr. Potter to come into the riding to try to point out the problems. Unfortunately the date he was to come was the date he ceased to be the minister. I would equally extend an invitation to this minister to come into my riding and to meet the people so that he could understand. And he will hear it directly on these various programmes.

I am sorry the rest of my friends from Toronto haven't had that experience, but as I say, if you have a riding with 11 or 12 hospitals in it you are apt to meet this problem in a more severe way than others are. We would be delighted to have you come.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Minister, do you want to make a statement?

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: I just want to say to Mrs. Campbell that I accept her invitation.

Mrs. Campbell: Thank you.

Mr. Gordon: Mr. Chairman, on the matter of liaison, Mrs. Campbell might be interested in the fact that I had the privilege about two weeks ago of meeting with the people from the welfare council, the agencies delivering home care services and the Ministry of Health and our staff to approach this very problem. We share the concern of liaison and we are trying to develop in that work area co-ordinated mechanisms for delivery.

Mrs. Campbell: Thank you. That is all I want to say on this item.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Martel has arrived.

Mrs. Campbell: We kept it going for you very well.

Mr. Chairman: We are dealing with vote 2601, item 5.

Mr. E. W. Martel (Sudbury East): I thought that is where you would be when I returned.

Mr. B. Newman: Did you say vote 2607?

Mr. Chairman: We would have hoped that we would have been on 2607, but we haven't arrived.

Mrs. Campbell: You can't talk about GAINS but you can talk about day care in this vote.

Mr. Martel: The only thing I wanted to talk about on GAINS is that I am delighted to see you are following BC.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: We are doing better than BC.

Mr. Martel: No, you are not doing better than BC.

Mrs. Campbell: Oh, come on! If he can discuss GAINS, I am going to.

Mr. Martel: I am not going to discuss GAINS. I just wanted to say I am delighted to see you playing follow the leader again. I am delighted to see in your other programmes, in drugs, you are following also.

Mr. Chairman: What are we talking about here?

Mr. Martel: We are talking about programme development administration. I suggest you look on page 20 of the blue book and you will find, under new projects, GAINS, Ontario drug plan and social securities review. The only point I want to make is, that of the three programmes, I don't know of one that was initiated by Ontario. That is

par for the course, however. Ontario has never taken the lead in this field of services to people.

What I want to talk about is the projects that you might have—I believe my colleague from Wentworth started to deal with it—relating to what you are doing to assist people to get off welfare. I see no initiative or very little initiative from the ministry aimed at getting off welfare the people who are on welfare, who are capable of working or who are on FBA and capable of working, but who are hamstrung by the existing legislation, thus preventing them from getting on and back into the mainstream. I understand there are other provinces that have engaged in a lot of work activity projects. Ontario has, I suppose, a couple.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: More than that.

Mr. Martel: I would suppose we are talking about 100 people. In fact, Mr. Minister, I am absolutely convinced that if we are going to move to projects that will provide meaningful employment—whether you as a Tory, or whether your government likes it or not—you are going to have to interfere to some degree with the free enterprise system. In other words, we can't continue to develop just work-activity projects where we hand out or pay out. We, in fact, are going to have to create work projects which have a return. There are two types of projects which can be developed.

(There are those that are community based, which would provide services to people, but they are going to continue to be a straight direct government handout, and are going to involve using the tax base in order to raise the funds necessary. It seems to me it is time the government got involved in work activities or projects that would show a return, that, in fact, would be self-sustaining and could be used to assist people off FBA.

For example, one looks at the FBA and the numbers of deserted mothers who are left on their own hook to raise a family, and it has increased rather dramatically in the last couple of years. And when one looks at the type of policies you have surrounding this group with respect to how much money they can earn or keep. And when one looks at the type of jobs which are available to them, based on that very excellent study conducted by your research branch last year on the family benefit mothers in Metro Toronto, we find that most of these people are in dead-end jobs. In fact, the vast majority of them end up—

Mr. Chairman: I might say with great respect at this point, Mr. Martel, that this is extremely repetitive. We have already heard from your colleague this afternoon and we have heard from Mrs. Campbell and members of the government who are here—we already discussed the whole matter of the single parent and matters of this nature. I think it is nothing but a matter of repetition.

If we go on with this particular course, we will never get to the end of these estimates. I might say that, I think there are many important issues to discuss in these things and we are sorrowful that you couldn't be with us all afternoon. We know you were doing other matters for your constituents, but at the same time, to just repeat anything that has already been discussed seems to me to be—

Mr. Martel: You know in the time you interjected, I could have finished that topic, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: I am afraid you wouldn't.

Mr. Martel: That is a matter of opinion. But you are wasting the time of the committee.

Mr. Chairman: It has already been discussed.

Mr. Martel: It might have been discussed, but I just say to the minister that based on the statistics of a growing number of people—and no implementation of the two major recommendations of the Swadron report which would allow people to keep more money and on which the minister announced there would be a policy statement last January, I am still eagerly awaiting that policy statement to change that. And the second point is that you have to move into competition and have the funds necessary to implement programmes that make money.

Mr. Chairman, I also want to move into what the ministry is doing, with the chairman's indulgence, with respect to developing a programme on nutrition, or malnutrition. I am on safe grounds, I presume, Mr. Chairman. I checked it out.

Mr. Chairman: Well, I think that was a part of the total programme—

Mr. Martel: No, no.

Mr. Chairman:—that we have already discussed this afternoon. That is a matter of money.

Mrs. Campbell: I was told I had to get into that later. I have been trying to raise it with the minister—

Mr. Martel: Well, I am going to talk about programme development along the lines of malnutrition right now, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: What vote does that come under?

Mrs. Campbell: It comes into—

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: That should be under the second vote.

Mrs. Campbell: Into social services.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 2602.

Mr. Martel: I am not talking about funds under income security at all.

Mr. Chairman: But is it part of programme development?

Mr. Martel: It certainly is. It is right on. I want to advocate a—

Mr. Chairman: I would rule it out of order now. It's in vote 2602, and we can discuss it there.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, you are just going to have to listen for a moment to what I am going to talk about before you can rule it out of order.

I want to talk about a diet dispensary similar to that established in Montreal, which is programme development. Because that is when you are going to start it from if you develop such a programme.

It seems to me that this is the appropriate place, because this is where programmes originate.

Mr. Chairman: No, we'll go on to 2602 for that particular discussion.

Mr. Martel: No, Mr. Chairman. I am talking about an entirely new programme that is not related to income. You want to talk about it under income maintenance. I don't. I want to talk about programme development. I want to talk about developing a programme with respect to women who are in a family way. It seems to me that under programme development is the place where you discuss development of new programmes. Where else would you discuss it?

Mr. Chairman: We are being advised that it should be logically discussed under—

Mr. Martel: By whom are you being advised?

Mr. Chairman: —vote 2602.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: Mr. Chairman, I think it could be discussed more appropriately under the second vote, but at the same time if—

Mr. Martel: I want to talk about a new programme. I don't want to talk about the \$6 that is discretionary from municipal councils. I want to talk about the development of a totally new programme, unrelated to income security.

Mr. Morningstar: That's 2602.

Hon. Mr. Brunelle: A new programme?

Mr. Martel: A new programme. And the reasons for that new programme. As I understand it, if I read this correctly, that item 5 is programme development administration.

Mr. Gordon: If I might comment, Mr. Chairman, it is our understanding that ministry administration means the administration of the ministry. We are talking about the programmes in votes 2, 3, 4 and 5, not item 5, but votes 2, 3, 4 and 5. So we would have assumed that the development of new programmes for social services, for example, would come under those; and those for community services, etc., under the appropriate vote rather than under the administrative vote.

Mr. Martel: I listened carefully while the member for St. George talked about programmes for the senior citizens, and there was no objection to that. Meals on wheels should have come under vote 3 then, that being the case, Mr. Chairman. You can't play the game both ways. It was discussed at great length.

Mr. Apps: Mr. Chairman, I think the important thing is to make sure you are able to discuss what you want to discuss under the proper vote.

An hon. member: Right.

Mr. Apps: I agree with Mr. Martel that when we were talking about meals on wheels, it wasn't within the vote right now. But I would think that Mr. Martel might sort of yield the point as long as he gets the opportunity of discussing it under the proper vote.

Mr. Martel: If I want to talk about the development of a new programme, it's not—

Mr. Apps: As long as you get the opportunity.

Mr. Chairman: Generally speaking—

Mr. Apps: This is general discussion under administration. I would think it should go through very quickly, and then go into the other ones in detail when you want to.

Mr. Martel: You have been discussing programme development for hours under this vote. Have you not, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Chairman: Exactly.

Mr. Martel: Exactly—and that is what I want to talk about.

Mr. Chairman: Exactly.

Mr. Martel: Programme development, with your indulgence.

Mr. Chairman: Well, if you don't discuss it when we get into the other votes—

Mr. Martel: I will not discuss it later on.

Mr. Chairman: —I would agree to your discussing it here.

Mr. Martel: I have no intention—I have them all lined up on what I want to say on each item.

Mr. Stokes: He could have been finished now if he had been on that.

Mr. Chairman: Oh, I doubt that.

Mr. Martel: Mr. Chairman, last year I mentioned the problem of malnutrition based on reading excerpts from *Weekend* magazine. Since that time I have contacted Agnes Higgins and her group, who are working in this area. And it's rather startling for a novice in this area, Mr. Chairman, to learn what happens.

For example, for each child who might be born underweight, it has been estimated that in the United States and Canada the cost of maintaining a defective child throughout life in an institution or in the community is more than \$100,000 a year. When one bases that against the fact that this programme is operated at \$125 throughout the total pregnancy of the mother, one realizes the tremendous savings in dollars. But even more important, the children are born equal and with an opportunity to take part in the community as equals.

Let me illustrate to you what happens. I'm quoting from this document:

Numerous reports indicate that birth weight is a major factor in infant de-

velopment. Singer et al (1968) indicate that low birth weight is related to increased rates of stillbirths, neonatal death, poor infant development, cerebral palsy, mental retardation, and lowered intelligence. Butler and Albertman (1968) found that prenatal mortality rate was lowest for infants with birth weight between 3,001 and 4,000 grams. Dobbing (1968) has shown that the period of maximum brain growth in the human occurs late in pregnancy. Churchill et al (1968) studied two groups of Detroit school children with IQ ratings between 80 and above 110 who were born at normal terms. The mean birth weight of the groups was 2,960 and 3,550 grams respectively. Winick (1970) found in 16 infants with normal birthweight only a five per cent to 20 per cent reduction in the number of brain cells, compared with a 60 per cent reduction for infants with low birth weight.

In fact, a whole host of studies show that if malnutrition is involved during the period of pregnancy, the possibility of children being born mentally retarded or physically disabled is greatly enhanced.

For \$125 per pregnancy—and governments like these figures—we could probably reduce the cost of these afflictions in Canada by \$3 billion a year. It has been estimated that malnutrition is costing society \$30 billion in the United States. For a cost of about \$9 million a year in Canada we could reduce the potential cost of \$100,000 per child.

I started to discuss this last year in the hope that the ministry would start some type of programme to establish dietary clinics similar in nature to those in Montreal. I understand it's not all that difficult, Mr. Minister. I'm told that what they did over a number of years was to compare a control group with the general public using the same hospital. In fact, I'll give you an example of one family if I might. It states here:

Figure 1 indicates the birth weight record of 11 children of a 29-year-old mother who delivered at the Royal Victoria Hospital. The third child died at the age of one month. The mother received nutrition service from the diet dispensary only during the last three pregnancies. The birth weights of these children were greater than that of the others.

A physical and mental assessment of all the children was done at the Montreal Children's Hospital and indicated that the last three children are normal, whereas the

others were found to be disadvantaged and there was considerable doubt as to their ability to succeed.

The cost of the diet dispensary service for each case, including the food supplementation, is \$125, whereas the estimated cost to the state of maintaining a deficient child is more than 1,000 times greater.

One knows these things are going on; and that has always irritated me about this ministry. These studies have been going on for years in the United States and in Canada, and when we talk about them we see no action in Ontario to do something about it. I indicated last year that Barrett pays \$25 a month during the pregnancy. In Ontario, all we've got is a \$6 allowance which is discretionary at the municipal welfare level—it's discretionary; they don't have to pay it.

I want to know, seriously, what in God's name we're doing as a province to ensure that the cost is reduced. I refer to the cost in terms of a child with some brain damage, a child born dull-normal — Mr. Gordon comes from the education field—the cost of special teachers, the cost of psychologists, the cost of psychiatrists, the cost of a whole range of people. It's astronomical. Yet if we were to establish dietary clinics like this in the province, it might cost us as little as \$4 million or \$5 million.

That sounds like a lot in one shot, but it's preventive. Ever since I became a critic of this ministry I have moved constantly—not to handouts, not to anything else but prevention—whether it be preventive in terms of getting people rehabilitated or preventive in preventing family break ups. For three years everything I have attempted to talk about has

been based on prevention before the crisis occurs.

Constantly in this ministry, everything, as I said the other day, is a mop-up operation. It's a crisis-oriented department. I'm convinced in the long run, Mr. Minister, that if we don't start in that area the costs are going to do as they're doing now—they're escalating. The people who need the service don't get adequate service, and we never seem to break the cycle that goes on.

To put all your eggs in two new programme developments for this year—which are merely copies of other areas—and continue your social security review—which hopefully sometime in the future will bring in programming to alleviate some of the situation—doesn't take away from the fact that the province never introduces new initiatives which are preventive. They're going to be costly maybe to start, but in the long run, for society as a whole, they're going to reduce the costs. I'm absolutely convinced that you must do something right now in this area.

You've got all kinds of sources of information to draw on. You might send Al Borden down to Montreal, along with some of the staff, to see whether we can establish two or three of these programmes. And we should get a programme started in the very near future working with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Community and Social Services, because this will save money in the long run.

Mr. Chairman: Following the supper hour we will hear from the minister.

It being 6 o'clock, p.m. the committee took recess.

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